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Column One
By David Courtney

THE world is insecure. Government has never been as difficult and hazardous as today. With our future poised glitteringly on the summit of some incredible atomic reactor, our present looks at times like a stony, hissing wilderness, which few of us are likely to see the end of. That is why some people rebel against Baghdad Pacts; or Portuguese "enclaves"; or equal suffrage for all Algerians; or even water pipes in a parched land; or kings. And it is also why Governments, on this account and that, declare national emergencies and take away liberties.

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THAT is to say, people, nations, governments, even whole "blocs" of nations, feel themselves in an uneasy dark; and are apt to behave like people in the dark, who see ghosts and things and get frightened and lock the doors and bar the windows and instead of simply hiding under the bedclothes, dash about with big sticks and treble the police force. I am exaggerating a trifle. What I am trying to say is that no one feels secure any longer, no government, no nation; and when that happens, the liberty of the subject becomes a victim; and when the liberty of the subject becomes a victim there develops a new cause of fear—the fear of revolution.

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NOT for a minute do I suggest that anything like revolution is probable in Spain. But the other day there was a riot in Madrid, worked up as far as can be made out, by disaffected falangists. Then the Cabinet, presided over by General Franco, met in emergency session and took a big, blue pencil and deleted Articles 14 and 18 of the *Fueros*, the Spaniards' charter of rights promulgated in 1945. That means a troublesome citizen of Spain can be banished from his home. It means, in effect, the withdrawal of *habeas corpus*. Now, Spain had come a long way from the tyranny and fears which are inevitable after a civil war; and it is a pity that the trend should now be reversed.

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WHY? The Government's action cannot be due solely to a student demonstration in Madrid. Students are always demonstrating. There is, of course, that matter of the Monarchy; for Spain is a kingdom without a king and one of these days, when the General is ready, a king there will be—Prince Juan Carlos, eldest son of the legitimist claimant to the throne, and a student himself at the Military Academy at Saragossa. The Falangists apparently feel that they, and not Prince Juan Carlos, should succeed the Caudillo; for who knows how the power will shift if a king is brought again to the throne of Spain?

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KINGS and kingly pretenders are not themselves much trouble nowadays; but those who like them and those who don't can cause a lot of trouble. The division in the Falange, for example, must sadly weaken the Spanish regime, which has no other political backing of a cohesive kind. It has the Church, of course, if that can be called political backing, which I suppose it can; and the Army. But in street and market-place, in factory and university, the Falange has been pretty well supreme. It is, indeed, odd to see the child of Jose Antonio Primo de Rivera rise up to confound, or try to confound, the child of General Franco.

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ALL that may pass. But what cannot pass so easily is that other impending nightmare, Morocco, the Spanish Protectorate in which must suffer from any grant of independence in the French zone, and may even revert to the conditions of the Twenties, which cost Spain in blood and money a vitality she has never regained. Division in the Falange, uncertainty in Morocco, a Budget deficit that even the influx of American dollars has been unable to prevent, may, I say, add up to that other nightmare — the fear of civil revolution. I do not say it will; but obviously, government cannot become easier in Spain as time goes on.

Jerusalem, February 17.

TRACTORS FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Thursday (INA). — The International Cooperation Administration yesterday announced the procurement authorization of $76,000 for Israel to purchase tractors and tracklaying equipment.

Strikers Say Solution Up to Government

By DAN BAVLY

The Strike Coordinating Committee of professional workers claimed yesterday that the solution of the problem was now the Government's responsibility, as they had yesterday submitted compromise proposals, to which the Government had not replied by a late hour last night.

In the letter sent to the Ministerial Committee by the strikers the following points were made:

a. The Coordinating Committee considers that the strike has brought about a loss of faith that developed as a result of the Government's retreat from the September agreement to an increase for professionals. The Committee feels that this decision should not have been revoked.

b. The Coordinating Committee, with the approval of all the professional groups represented, is anxious to see the dispute wound up. They propose that the Government withhold part of the approved increases for 1956 for payment in 1957. A suggested alternative is full payment in 1956, of which a certain amount would be paid to the Defence Fund, in addition to the previous commitments of the professionals.

c. The Coordinating Committee therefore demands that they be paid the full differences accruing to them from July 1, 1955 until the end of 1955. (This has already been promised.)

It is also demanded that the grades of all professional workers be fixed as soon as possible in accordance with the Aranne Committee's recommendations last September. The professional associations will feel free to demand such further changes in salaries as might become appropriate following further changes in the national wage policy, or under other special circumstances.

They demand that no sanctions be imposed against any participants in the strike, and no deductions made from salaries.

It is understood that the compromise suggestions ask for 75 per cent of the approved increases be paid in 1956 (compared to 60 per cent offered by the Government), with the remaining 25 per cent to be paid to them next year.

It is understood that the Ministerial Committee did not discuss these proposals yesterday, and that there was no contact, official or unofficial, with the strikers.

Except for emergency cases the striking doctors will not receive today any patients in their homes for treatment.

The Medical Association claimed that hardly any doctors were working yesterday, most of them in Tel Aviv. (Work in border villages has been authorized by the Strike Committee and has proceeded normally). A Histadrut spokesman, on the other hand, said that a substantial number of Kupat Holim doctors had now returned to work.

It was announced by the lawyers' Association that their strike was fully observed. Permission was given for certain urgent cases and the legal adviser was authorized to attend work concerning the Defence Fund.

Controller Hits Local Councils

The full 341-page report of the State Controller was issued at midnight last night.

Heads of local councils often ignore the letter of the law when they believe that their action is morally justified, the State Controller said in the second instalment of his 1954/55 report on Government activity, which was released earlier yesterday.

The State Controller laid the blame for lawbreaking of this nature chiefly at the door of the outdated Mandatory Law on local government, which greatly limited the authority of municipal and local councils. Mr. Levi Eshkol, Minister of Finance, in answer to the Controller's comments, agreed with this criticism, and added that a law was being formulated which would enlarge the scope of local council activities.

The report also surveys the work of cities and towns, and says that while Tel Aviv has 12 municipal employees to every 1,000 population, Haifa has 10.5 and Jerusalem only five. The Controller adds, however, that this does not mean that the Tel Aviv Municipality is over-staffed, but that its field of activities is broader. In auditing council accounts, the Controller found eight cases in which the same person acted either as treasurer and book-keeper or storeman and purchasing agent. This practice, he points out, should be stopped, as it might lead to embezzlement.

Criticism of inefficient municipal tax collecting methods was also voiced by the Controller. Whereas in Kfar Saba a collector makes an average of 30 collections a day, he collects from 26 citizens in Petah Tikva, in Tel Aviv from almost 18, and in Haifa and Jerusalem he makes only 16 collections a day. Tax collection costs 8.4 per cent of the value of the tax revenue in Tel Aviv, in Jerusalem only 5.9 per cent and in Haifa only 4.5 per cent, though it should be mentioned that in some cities collections are made for a longer period of time.

Cash revenue and expenditure entries in some local councils are

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Eshkol Accepts Report's Suggestions for Reforms

General acceptance of the State Controller's report is expressed the Flaws pointed out by the Minister of Finance. Mr. Eshkol explains the methods by which the flaws pointed out by the Controller have been or will be repaired. He concedes certain criticisms while rejecting others, which are usually on technical matters.

Mr. Eshkol accepts the fact that a fundamental municipal law is required to reform municipal affairs. He adds that considerable adjustments should be made in the meantime.

Another improvisation suggested by the Controller and approved in general by Mr. Eshkol is that financial legislation should be codified. Here, also, he thinks that some time must elapse before a complete bill can be presented, and meanwhile various improvisations must be expected.

The Minister disapproves of the Controller's proposal that every item of expenditure altered from the budget estimate should be passed through the Knesset Finance Committee. Mr. Eshkol suggests that this apply only to sums in excess of IL.100,000.

On subsidy control, Mr. Eshkol

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

EGYPTIAN SNIPERS FIRE ON ISRAEL POST

Egyptian snipers yesterday opened fire three times on an Israel position in the Kissufim area near the Gaza Strip border, the Army spokesman has announced. Israel soldiers manning the position replied with rifle fire when they were shot at the third time. There were no casualties.

Histadrut Convention Put Off One Month

The Eighth Convention of the Histadrut, due to have opened in Haifa on Tuesday, has been postponed for a month "owing to unforeseen circumstances," it was announced in Tel Aviv late last night.

The decision to put off the Convention was taken at a meeting of the Histadrut Central Committee with the agreement of all its members and was made with the knowledge of the principal speakers, Mr. D. Ben-Gurion, the Prime Minister, and Mr. M. Namir, Histadrut General Secretary.

The Convention was originally scheduled to have been held in Haifa in December but was put off to allow Mr. Namir to attend the meetings in the U.S. in connection with the merger of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labour on December 5. The date was then fixed for January 17 but a further postponement took place till February 7. This date was then put forward till February 21 at the request of Mapai, Ahdut Ha'avoda, Mapam and Haoved Hazioni (Progressives).

In anticipation of the scheduled date, February 21, a *Jerusalem Post* special Convention supplement was produced and forms part of today's enlarged issue. News of the change of date came when this section of the paper had already been printed.

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Britain Raises Bank Rate To Curb Inflation

LONDON, Thursday (Reuter).—The British bank rate was raised today by 1 per cent to 5½ per cent, after remaining at 4½ per cent for a year. It was last raised, also by 1 per cent, in February last year as a brake to the country's excessive spending.

The Treasury move came at a time when financial experts were speculating that Mr. Harold Macmillan, new Chancellor of the Exchequer, is planning tough measures in his April budget to end the country's economic difficulties.

The sharp increase in the bank rate, which decides the interest at which individuals and firms can borrow money, is an indication that the steps taken by the Government during the past year to stem inflation have not been effective enough.

Last month's trade figures showed a widening of the gap between British exports and imports. Britons have been spending too lavishly on luxuries and home furnishings over the past few years, and this has been sending up the import bill.

The Stock Exchange showed wild movements before the bank rate decision, with Government stocks dipping to an all-time low level. After the announcement, pressure became a little easier in leading industrial shares, but there was no immediate spectacular movement.

The bank rates prevailing in other countries are as follows: U.S. 2½ per cent, Canada 2¼ per cent, France 3 per cent, Germany 3½ per cent, Italy 4 per cent, Belgium 3 per cent, Denmark 5½ per cent, the Netherlands 3 per cent, Sweden 3½ per cent, and Switzerland 1½ per cent.

M.E. War Danger To World Peace—B.G.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — War in the Middle East might well lead to a world explosion, the Prime Minister, Mr. David Ben-Gurion, told an audience of Defence Fund workers at the Habimah Theatre this afternoon. While Israel needed weapons to balance Arab military strength, "they would also safeguard the peace of the world," he declared.

"Egypt was never in danger of Israel attack," the Prime Minister said, but he pointed out that the weapons now reaching Egypt were meant purely to attack Israel. This is known to both the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. V. M. Molotov, and the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, he added.

Mr. Ben-Gurion stated that he could not accept the argument that 100 planes for Israel would solve nothing, because the Egyptians would immediately acquire 200 more aircraft. The quantity of this modern type of military equipment that the countries of the region could absorb was limited.

He opened his speech by reading extracts from a Cairo dispatch to the February 10 issue of "The Times," which stated that much of the arms reaching Egypt recently were now massed on Israel's borders. War could be prevented if Israel received the weapons she had requested. However, he was still not "too optimistic" that these would be obtained: "They certainly aren't packed and ready for shipment."

The Prime Minister said that the country's fate was in its own hands. He recalled that eight years ago, after the U.N. had recognized Israel as an independent sovereign state, not a finger was lifted to help her in the face of the Arab onslaught. The nation had now to prepare for the worst, as there is no frontline in contemporary war. "All of us will be in the front," he said, calling for immediate civil defence preparations.

Shinwell: Israel Lacks Oil To Interest Great Powers

LONDON, Thursday (Reuter).—Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, Minister of Defence in the last Labour Government, said today that he does not believe that the U.S. or Britain are deeply concerned about the ultimate fate of Israel.

"There is not enough oil in Israel to excite the interest of the great powers. The Arabs have an abundance of oil," he said. Mr. Shinwell expressed this view in an article in the "Jewish Vanguard," organ of the Jewish Socialist Labour Party, published in London.

Johnston Not Due To Visit Mid-East

By JESSE ZEL LURIE
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK, Thursday. — Mr. Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's special envoy to the Middle East, will not go there. He will go on a business trip to the Far East next week and he expects, upon his return after five weeks, to receive the final Arab answers on his Jordan River project. The Arab decision, therefore, is political, and observers expect a negative response.

The State Department has expressed relief at Mr. David Ben-Gurion's statement that Israel is holding up work on the B'not Ya'acov project pending attempts to get an agreement.

But Israel had never issued a private or public ultimatum to start work by a certain date. The Israelis have told Mr. Johnston they would await the final word which he promised in the near future. They interpret "near future" by the end of March at the latest.

If the reply is in the negative, Israel will of course proceed after notifying the Security Council that its request for "temporary suspension" of work, over two years ago, has been fulfilled.

LONDON, Thursday. — The decision of the Israel Government not now to press on with the Jordan River diversion scheme is warmly welcomed here, diplomatic quarters said today.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

The Commons last night decided by 298 votes to 262 to abolish the death penalty for murder in Britain.

To Physicians who are Histadrut Members:

The National Conference of Histadrut Doctors appealed to all doctors to return to work, as of yesterday.

All our efforts to cause the Israel Medical Association and the Union of Kupat Holim Doctors to bring the negotiations to an end failed, although there is no longer any reason to continue the strike.

Respond to the Conference's appeal and return to work immediately — to the clinics, hospitals and other medical institutions.

The National Union of Histadrut Doctors

France Cancels Cairo Arms Contract; U.S. Sells Saudia 18 Modern Tanks

More Riadh Orders Placed

WASHINGTON, Thursday (UP). — The U.S. has sold Saudi Arabia 18 modern tanks which are aboard a ship scheduled to leave New York tomorrow. The transaction was expected to bring protests from Israel, which has been seeking $50m. worth of weapons on bargain terms to offset Czechoslovak arms supplied to Egypt.

The State Department explained, in response to questions, that Saudi Arabia requested the tanks last spring, and the U.S. agreed to sell them last autumn. They are only now being shipped, however.

The Department spokesman, Mr. Lincoln White, said that the tanks "are intended for training purposes and will be used in connection with the U.S. training mission now in Saudi Arabia."

He added that the tanks are being supplied under a "reimbursable assistance agreement" signed with Saudi Arabia in 1951, under which Saudi Arabia can buy military equipment, if the U.S. approves, for her internal security purposes.

Declines to List Arms

Mr. White said that Saudi Arabia also has requested other military equipment which has not yet been supplied, but declined to describe these arms.

The 18 tanks are M-41 Walker Bulldog light tanks. They are the American Army's standard light tank. They can travel 65 kms. an hour, carry a 76 mm. gun, a .50 calibre machinegun and a .30 calibre machinegun, and are manned by four men. They cost $135,000 apiece, but Mr. White declined to say how much Saudi Arabia had paid for them.

Pineau Sees France As Mid-East Arbiter

PARIS, Thursday (Reuter). — Foreign Minister Christian Pineau said today that France should adopt an arbiter's position between Egypt and Israel.

According to usually well-informed sources, M. Pineau made a lengthy review of the international situation in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly.

On the Middle East, the Foreign Minister said that the situation was "highly complex," but France must entertain good relations with all the Arab countries, the sources said.

Canada Bars Shell Shipment to Israel

OTTAWA, Thursday (Reuter).—External Affairs Minister, Lester Pearson said that the Government was delaying shipment to Israel of 1,750 shells for 25-pounder field artillery pending the outcome of Washington talks on Middle East arms shipments. He made the statement in the Commons yesterday in reply to a question by Mr. Douglas Harkness, Progressive Conservative Party member.

Allen Expresses 'Sympathy' For Israel Arms Bid

WASHINGTON, Thursday. — Egypt's recent acquisition of "a very considerable amount of new types of weapons" is one consideration which could "lead one to look with sympathy towards Israel's request for arms," Assistant Secretary of State George V. Allen, declared in an interview broadcast last night by the Voice of America.

But he pointed out that any country seeking arms must realize the eventual danger brought about by such weapons. No country, he added, wants to devote more of its scarce economic wealth to military equipment than it has to. Mr. Allen said the U.S. public opinion "shrinks from the idea of getting into the business of selling implements of death and destruction," and that he personally believed arms should be given where they were needed.

Baghdad Pact

If the U.S. joined the Baghdad pact, it would cause "much more serious consideration" to be given to the entire question of security pacts in the area, including Israel. He did not rule out "eventual American membership," he added.

Mr. Allen said that last week was the first occasion on which both Arabs and Israelis have agreed on a policy—that the Western Big Three have no "God-given right, or right on any basis, to arrogate to themselves the decision" in the Middle East. He agreed with that, and asserted that the U.S. is "really concentrating" on efforts to bring relaxation of Middle East tension.

Commenting on the danger of war between the Arabs and Israel, Mr. Allen expressed the belief that the likelihood of a conflict is "serious." He said that in trying to relax Middle East tensions the U.S. wants to work through the U.N., and fully backs the activities of Maj.-Gen. E.L.M. Burns, the chief truce supervisor. He did not admit to the "hopeless attitude that war is inevitable."

Regarding any one point that is a major irritant in the Arab-Israel dispute, he said the outstanding questions are those on refugees, their repatriation or compensation for them, fixed and permanent agreed boundaries, Jerusalem's status, the economic blockades, and the future of the transit of goods through the area. It would depend on who was drawing up a list as to which question would come first, he added.

Mr. Allen will make a trip through Central and South Africa next month following the SEATO meeting in Pakistan, it was announced.

(INA, UBIS, UP)

Western Big 3 Split on Policy

LONDON, Thursday (UP). — Anglo-American differences on Western strategy in the Middle East flared up again today while France adopted an independent stand, informed sources said.

Reports reaching here from Washington, where three-power talks on the Middle East are under way, revealed discrepancies ranging from an appraisal of the Arab-Israel arms balance to interpretation of the 1950 Tripartite Declaration guaranteeing the present Arab-Israel borders.

The Foreign Office stated firmly that the British view of the arms balance still prevailed despite the recent flow of Soviet bloc arms to the Arabs. The American view is that the introduction of Communist-made fighters and bombers upset the arms balance in favour of the Arabs.

And in Paris, the Quai d'Orsay made it clear that it envisaged action in connection with the Tripartite Declaration within the U.N. rather than outside it.

Observers do not rule out suggestions that the current differences originated in the Soviet warning earlier this week against any independent Western action in the region outside of the U.N. and without prior approval of the Mid-Eastern nations themselves.

Paris Not to Deliver Mortars

PARIS, Thursday (Reuter). — The French Foreign Ministry today disclosed that a contract for French delivery of mortars to Egypt was made last month, but said that the contract would not be carried out.

The disclosure followed a report from Jerusalem in the evening newspaper, "France-Soir," that political and military circles in Israel were disturbed about the present French delivery of 330 60-mm. mortars to Egypt. The newspaper said that Israel information services thought the mortars would end up in North Africa since they were adapted for mountain warfare, whereas any battleground between Israel and Egypt would be flat ground.

Old Contracts

Foreign Ministry officials commenting on this report said that no such material was at present being delivered to Egypt. They added that the only material being delivered to Egypt under old contracts was heavy material which could not be used by rebels in North Africa.

"France-Soir" then claimed in a late evening edition that Foreign Minister Christian Pineau had confirmed its report before the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs committee this morning. The paper said M. Pineau read its report from Jerusalem and told the Committee that the contract had been made last month when the outgoing Government was dealing with current affairs. He indicated that the contract would not be carried out, "France-Soir" said.

Deal with Private Firm

Answering a question, M. Pineau stated that the contract was made between the firm making the mortars and the Egyptian Government, with the agreement of the French Minister concerned, the newspaper claimed.

Questioned about this reference to the contract, Foreign Ministry officials confirmed its existence between the firm and the Egyptian Government though they could not say whether it had Government approval. They said the contract would not be carried out.

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TEL AVIV JERUSALEM HAIFA

A statement was this afternoon issued to the press by an official spokesman with reference to certain charges filed against us and other persons and companies. We have not yet received a copy of the charges and are unaware of their particulars.

As the matter is sub judice we abstain from any public comment on it.

Nevertheless we have the honour to inform our clients and the public that we are continuing business as usual, and shall provide our services to our clients in all our branches without any interruption and diligently and faithfully as we have done hitherto for over 20 years.

We are confident that our clients will continue to place their trust in us.

The Management
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February 16, 1956

With profound grief we announce the death of our beloved only daughter

Sergeant **Ariela Abir** (Riferman)

at the age of 20.

The funeral will be held today, Feb. 17, at 12.15, at the Nahlat Yitzhak Cemetery.

Buses will leave the home of her parents, 7 Rehov Marmorek, Tel Aviv, for the Tel Hashomer Hospital at 10.45, and then will proceed to the Nahlat Yitzhak Cemetery.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Abir-Riferman

Social & Personal

Mayor Gershon Agron of Jerusalem yesterday received the Reverend James A. Pike, Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, and Mrs. Pike, and affixed the emblem of the city to Rev. Pike's lapel.

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Mr. Palmer J. Schiele, agricultural engineer on the staff of U.S.O.M., was the guest of honour at a reception given on Wednesday, by the Israel Soil Conservation Service, on the eve of his return to the U.S. on completing his two-year assignment in this country.

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ARRIVALS — Mrs. Inez Gordon, President South African WIZO, for a one-month stay; Mr. Nathaniel Kann, Chairman of the Israel Bond Committee in Pittsburgh, for a brief tour as guest of State of Israel Bonds; Five American oil-drilling experts, at the invitation of Lapidot and Israel Oil Prospectors; Mr. Leo Tager, of the South African Keren Hayesod and U.J.A.; Messrs. W. Riddel and W. Brooking, of the Canadian National Wheat Council, on a two-day visit; Dr. Benjamin Eliav, First Secretary at the Israel Embassy in Argentina, with his family, after a two-year tour of duty; Dr. Armand Sunier, and family, at the invitation of the Joint Distribution Committee; Mrs. Elizabeth Even in the company of Mr. and Mrs. Payot after completing studies in Paris.

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DEPARTURES — Mr. Baruch Zuckerman, U.S. member of the Jewish Agency Executive, after attending the Executive meeting here; Mrs. Turan Askandari, wife of the Director of the Tax Division of the Persian Finance Ministry, for Teheran, after receiving medical treatment at Beilinson Hospital; Mr. I. Werfel, of the Zim Navigation Co., for Germany, to receive the s.s. Zion on behalf of the firm; Mr. K. Sztykgold, of the Pontiac Petroleum Co., for Europe; Mr. Y. Griever, Director of Patra Travel Agency, for Europe and the U.S., on company business; Mr. Max Falk, Dutch businessman, after 10-days on a textile purchasing tour; Dr. Y. Goldschmidt, head of the Religious Education Department of the Ministry of Education, for England, on mission for the World Zionist Organization.

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M. and Mme. Raymond Cartier, of the editorial staff of "Paris-Match," who crossed into Israel through Mandelbaum Gate, toured the Negev yesterday and were entertained to lunch by the Mayor of Beersheba.

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Irgun Olei Merkaz Europa, Jerusalem, is to hold a symposium on "Welfare Work in Israel" on Sunday, February 19, 1956, at 8.30 p.m., at Beit Hahalutzot, honouring the memory of Georg Landauer on the second anniversary of his death. Chairman: Dr. Helene Kagan. Lecturers: Jacob Bar-On (Breuer), Lucy Levy-Zobel, Thea Nathan-Meyerowitz.

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BIRTH

PAPO — To Haim and Lollot Papo (nee Lowey) on February 14, 1956 at the Assuta Hospital—a daughter.

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BAR MITZVAH

Professor and Mrs. G. Weil will be at Home at 10 Rehov Balfour, Jerusalem, on Saturday, February 25, 1956 between 4.30 and 7 p.m., on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, David Drucker. Service at the Emeth Ve-Emunah Synagogue (Gan Rehavia).

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MARRIAGE

LUCATZ — COHEN

The marriage has taken place in Naharitya, between Tevye Lucatz and Becky Cohen (of Edinburgh).

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MEMORIAL MEETING

A memorial meeting to mark the 30th day of the death of Shimon Shurr was held yesterday in the Ratisbonne building in Jerusalem.

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The Jerusalem Sports Club's annual fancy dress Purim Ball, "A Night at the Cosmopolitan Hotel" will be held on Saturday, February 25. Members and their guests should book now.

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The "Accadia Adloyada" to be held at the Accadia Grand Hotel, on Saturday night, March 3, 1956, promises to be a major social event. For particulars and reservations please phone Tel Aviv, 4327/8/9.

Shalom Horowitz Buried in Sanhedria

Hundreds of members of Jerusalem's liberal professions and academic circles, and friends from out of town, yesterday followed the coffin of Shalom Horowitz from Beit Shalom, his home in Talbieh, to the Sanhedria Cemetery. Mr. Horowitz passed away on Wednesday at the age of 75.

Among those who accompanied the cortege were the President's aide, justices of the Supreme Court, present and former Cabinet Ministers, and members of the Jewish Agency Executive and of the Hebrew University Board of Governors.

The funeral cortege first stopped at the Senate Building of the Hebrew University, on whose Board of Governors the deceased had sat for many years. Mr. M. Novomeysky, former Chairman of the Board of the Potash Works and a life-long friend of Mr. Horowitz, recited *kaddish*. In the courtyard of the National Institutions, Cantor Y. Bar-Zakai chanted the *El Maleh Rahamim* and Mr. H. Solomon recited the memorial prayer.

At the graveside, *kaddish* was recited by Mr. N. Solomon, a partner of the deceased's former law firm.

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Far East Jews 'Must Be Saved'

By a Correspondent

"Save the spiritually starving Jews of the Far East" was the impassioned appeal of Rabbi Dr. Ferdinand Isserman of St. Louis, Mo., who spoke on his visit to Far Eastern Jewish communities at Beit Hillel in Jerusalem earlier this week.

"Some 200 Jews live in Tokyo," he reported. "They have no synagogue, only a club house. On the second floor of this club house there is a small room that serves as their synagogue. They have no ordained Rabbi, and volunteers conduct the services."

Rabbi Isserman stated that he was pleasantly surprised at the interest expressed in Judaism by the Japanese people. "Shintoism had been the state religion of Japan," he said, "but now with the military defeat of Japan and the changes in its political structure, many of the religious leaders feel that Shintoism might become a world religion. Therefore they are intensely interested in Judaism."

Was Judaism confined only to born Jews? Could others also become members of this religion? What was the difference between Christianity and Judaism? These were only some of the questions asked of Rabbi Isserman.

While in Japan, Dr. Isserman met the younger brother of the Emperor of Japan. The Prince is a lecturer in Ancient History at the Nippon Women's College and is a member of the Bible Society of Tokyo. Dr. Isserman was told that the Prince, who had been a cavalry colonel, had left his military career and was now pursuing an academic vocation. The Prince had also shed his Shintoism and was now intensely studying world religions. "The Prince has a great religious hunger. Judaism is of special interest to him and he is learning Hebrew and studying the Old Testament."

"In Hong Kong," Dr. Isserman reported, "there are some 100-200 Jews. They have a beautiful synagogue attached to their club house but no ordained Rabbi. The leadership of the Jewish community is held by the Khadouri family who originally came from Baghdad. (They are referred to as the Rockefellers of the Orient.) The oldest Khadouri brother conducts services and other religious observances."

"Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, has some 40 Jews. This is a dying community. They cannot even obtain a *minyan* for burial services." From Thailand, Dr. Isserman flew to India. "Calcutta with its 1,500 Jews has one Rabbi. He is an Indian Jew, educated in the U.S. Bombay has the largest Jewish community in India — over 1,500 Jews. It has two synagogues but no ordained Rabbi."

Throughout his visit in India, Dr. Isserman was struck by the feelings of difference between the B'nei Israel, the native Indian Jews, and the Iraqi and European Jews, who are more recent arrivals. "I had not realized that there was such strong feeling on the subject," he noted.

He stressed the problem of there being only one ordained Rabbi in the entire Far East from Bombay to Tokyo. Dr. Isserman felt that the solution might be to send Rabbis to these distant communities.

In the discussion that followed, chaired by Dr. Zigmond, the Director of Beit Hillel, several speakers felt that immigration to Israel might be another way of saving these Asian Jewish communities.

KAPFENBERG WIN 3-2 IN HAIFA

HAIFA, Thursday. — The Kapfenberg soccer XI of Austria scored its first victory in Israel this afternoon, beating Haifa Maccabi, 3:2, (0:1) before a crowd of 6,500 at the Municipal Stadium.

The visitors earned their victory with fine play in the Viennese tradition of short, low and very fast passing. Often they had the crowd on its feet by their beautiful football. The home team, reinforced by Litvak of Rehovot, also played a good game but was too nervous in front of the opponent's goal.

The scoring was opened in the eighth minute by Maccabi left-half Ben Zvi. The other scorers were Wirbouda in the 60th and Hauberger in the 65th for the visitors. In the 72nd minute, Litvak equalized and, three minutes before the end, Gollenhaver put Kapfenberg on top.

QUERY AUTHORITY OF JUDGE HALEVI

A claim that Dr. Benjamin Halevi was serving illegally as President of the Jerusalem District Court was submitted to the Supreme Court yesterday by Eliezer Brandwein who was recently sentenced to four years in prison for planning to rob a Bank Leumi branch in Jerusalem.

In applying for a writ of *habeas corpus*, Brandwein said that he was being held in Ramle prison illegally since Dr. Halevi had ceased to be a judge in December, 1954. Dr. Halevi had at that time submitted his resignation which he later retracted. Since he had not been re-appointed by the Judges Appointment Committee, he was acting as a judge without authorization, Brandwein claimed.

The Supreme Court is to discuss the application on Tuesday. *(Itim)*

3 Jailed for Bribery On State's Appeal

The Supreme Court sitting as the Court of Criminal Appeals yesterday sentenced three partners of the Mefales transport company to varying terms of imprisonment and fines for bribing two army officers to give their company preference in orders.

Eliahu Applebaum was sentenced to eight months in jail and a IL1,000 fine; Isser Reznik to six months and IL500, and David Rushko to four months and IL500. The State had appealed against their acquittal by the Tel Aviv District Court in 1952.

The Court was composed of Justice Cheshin, Deputy President, and Justices Goitein and Berinson. *(Itim)*

(A summary of this judgment will be given in a forthcoming *Jerusalem Post* Law Report).

Yesterday's Press

B-G Springs A Surprise

Mr. Ben-Gurion's announcement to the correspondent of the "New York Times" that Israel has decided to postpone the work on the Jordan Valley project pending the arrival of Mr. Eric Johnston has come as a pleasant surprise in Washington and a less pleasant one in Israel.

While "Ha'aretz" (non-party) subheads its main story with the information that the American State Department does not know of plans for Mr. Johnston's coming, it writes in its leader that Mr. Ben-Gurion's announcement cuts away the basis of widespread opinion that Israel, while not planning to attack Egypt, would proceed with work in the Jordan Valley, thus antagonizing Syria and forcing Egypt to honour its commitment to its treaty partner.

"Lamerhav" (Ahdut Ha'avoda) is somewhat dismayed at this sudden *volte-face* from the recently publicized categorical statement that work would be resumed as soon as the weather permitted and writes that Mr. Johnston is being sent here not to make arrangements but to prevent Israel from going ahead with the work under the threat of war. Thus our enemies will obtain everything they want without even firing a shot. The Prime Minister's announcement in effect bears out the fact that American pressure has been effective. It is a great pity that the Government has decided to shelve the operation, and it is doubly a pity that the move has received such publicity. The public has a right to know whether the decision was really made on the Government's initiative.

The "Haboker" (General Zionist) Political Correspondent writes that political circles explain the announcement as an Israel step to prove to world public opinion that she is seeking a way of carrying out the work peacefully and through agreement. But those who are responsible for our foreign policy do not seem to think that the public should have been taken into their confidence on such a vital matter and the public was astonished to read and hear about the decision from a foreign source.

"Herut" feels that the Prime Minister's announcement of the new retreat has left only one thing unsaid: that henceforth the Prime Minister of the sovereign and independent State of Israel would sit back and wait for a permit from a foreign controller to carry on development work in Israel territory.

"Here and Now" thinks that pressure and force will not solve the conflict between the striking professionals and the Government. The issue is not how much of a raise should be granted by this date or that, or even whether or not promises have been kept, but the place to be accorded to the intelligentsia in Israel's young society.

Where to go

TODAY

JERUSALEM

* Exhibitions:— Water colours, drawings, and frescoes by F.M. Weiss. Wire sculptures by Prof. Abba P. Lerner, "Nora Studio," 9 Ben Maimon, 10-1, 3-6 (Tomorrow, 10-2).

1) Dutch and Flemish 17th Century Paintings. 2) French 20th Century Paintings. 3) Pochoir Paintings of Maya Art after Manuscripts and Monuments by Felipe Neri Gonsales. Exhibit of Month: Copper plate etched by Jacques Lipchitz, with 43 successive proofs of the etching. Bezalel, 9-1. (Tomorrow 10-1).

Arts and Crafts: Silver and copper jewellery by "Xila" (Y. Adler) Woollen rugs from Sde Boker. Artists House, 10-1, 4-6 (Tomorrow 10-1).

Permanent exhibition at the Department of Antiquities. Temporary: Finds in Caesarea, 9-11; 3-5. "Conquest of the Desert," Jerusalem Convention Centre, 10-1, 4-6.

* Recorded Music:— Music to Inspire (with background pictures). Chopin, Etudes, op. 25; Beethoven, Symphony No. 7, in A. 8.30 Public welcome. Y.M.C.A.

* Tours:— Hebrew University conducted tour. New Administration Building. Opposite Terra Sancta. 10 a.m.

TEL AVIV

* Exhibitions:— Paintings, Puppets, Stage designs by Paul Loewy. Paintings Aria Alweil; Chinese Prints (Reproductions) lent by UNESCO. 10-1. (Also tomorrow). Tel Aviv Museum. "Ascent of Mount Everest," Z.O.A. House, 10 a.m.-1.30.

HAIFA

* Film Club:— "The Cabinet of Doctor Caligary." Peer. 3.30.

KIRYAT MOTZKIN

* Theatre:— "Man, Mensch, Foter" — Yiddish. Oroi. 8.30.

TOMORROW

JERUSALEM

* Recorded Music:— Saturday Music Hour: Poulenc, Suite Francaise; Beethoven, "Eroica" Symphony No. 3, in E Flat. 11 a.m. Public welcome. Y.M.C.A.

* Tour: — Southern parts of Jerusalem. Leaving Municipality, Rehov Jaffa, 10 a.m.

TEL AVIV

Italian specialities, lunch, dinner, music. Luky's Bar, 3 Allenby Rd.

* Exhibition:— Paintings by Sarah Herz — Winograd Chemerinsky Art Gallery, 96 Rehov Gordon, 10-1, 4-8.

Nudes — Painters' and Sculptors' Pavilion — 9 Albertzi, 10-1, (closing today).

* Ballet:— Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Hab.mah, 8.30.

Z.O.A. House Tourist Service Welcomes You, 9.00 to 10.30 p.m.

* Concert:— Haydn, Mozart, Ravel — Pamyras Quartet, 8.30, Museum.

* Theatre:— Ohel. "Johnny Belinda." 7 and 9.15. Cameri. "The Italian Straw Hat," 6.30 and 9.30. Mograbi. New Cameri Theatre. "The Hasty Heart." 6.30, 9.30 "Man, Mensch, Foter" — Yiddish: Beit Hapoel. 6.30 and 9.15.

HAIFA

* Exhibitions:— "Maskit" Village Craft. Also Exhibits from Municipal Library. Fortnightly Exhibit: Watercolour by Mordechai Avniel. Museum, Town Hall, 10-1, 4-9. Closing tonight.

COMING EVENTS

Habimah

NEXT WEEK

Feb. 19 — Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Tel Aviv, 8.30 p.m.
— "Maayana," Gedera, 8 p.m.
— "Pandro the Hero," Haifa, 8 p.m.

Feb. 20 — Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Tel Aviv, 8.30 p.m.
— "Pandro the Hero," Kiryat Haim 8 p.m.

Feb. 21 — "Pandro the Hero," Hadera, 8 p.m.

Feb. 22 — Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Jerusalem, 8.30 p.m.

Feb. 23 — Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Jerusalem, 8.30 p.m.
— "Maayana," Petah Tikva, 8 p.m.

Feb. 25 — Martha Graham and her Dance Company, Tel Aviv, 8.30 p.m.

PERSONS interested in renting rooms to delegates to the 24th Zionist Congress, to open in Jerusalem April 24, should contact the Congress Committee, Moriah Hotel, Jerusalem 63597. The rent has been fixed at IL4 a day, for a single room and IL7 for a double room.

Chelsea Win Cup-Tie At Fourth Meeting

Chelsea won the "marathon" Fourth Round Cup-tie in the English Football Association Challenge Cup competition on the Tottenham Hotspur ground by 2-0 against Burnley on Wednesday, to gain the right to play Everton in the Fifth Round tomorrow.

In the second longest series of Cup-ties in the history of English soccer — the record being held by games played some 31 years ago — the teams had drawn three times before.

Even the last result was touch and go and nearly went into extra time and a draw again, but Burnley failed to convert a penalty when Chelsea led 1-0, and the "Pensioners" second goal was sufficient to settle the issue.

The series attracted crowds aggregating over 163,000, which paid gate money of nearly £34,000, a nice "nest egg" for the F.A., the teams involved and the British Exchequer. *(K.B.)*

URUGUAY WIN S. AMERICAN CHAMP.

MONTEVIDEO, Thursday (Reuter). — Uruguay won the South American football championship when they beat Argentina, 1-0, here last night.

Taking control in the second half, Italy beat France, 2-0, at Bologna yesterday in the 21st football international between the two countries. The half-time score was 0-0.

HAIFA CHANGES GUARD ON THE BORDER

HAIFA, Thursday. — About 430 Haifa workers, among them Labour Council employees, are due home this week-end from a week of volunteer service in border settlements. Among the group is Mr. Benjamin Ne'eman, Chairman of the Kfar Ata Local Council. The buses bringing them home will take the next group, of about the same number, to some 30 frontier villages.

Religious Services

Portion: Terumah (Sh'mot 25, 1—27, 19).
Haftara: Melakhim I, 5, 26—6, 13.
Shabbat begins in Jerusalem at 4.30 p.m. today, and ends at 6.05 p.m. tomorrow.

JERUSALEM

Yeshurun Synagogue: Tonight 4.50 p.m. tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m. Minha: 4.30 p.m. Arvit: 6 p.m.

Emet V'Emuna (Gan Rehavia): Tonight: 5.15 p.m. Tomorrow, Shahrit: 8.15 a.m.

Ahdut Yisrael Congregation, Sephardic Orphan House, Jaffa Road: Tomorrow at 8.30 a.m. Youth Service with Congregational Singing.

Italian Synagogue (Hillel St.): Tonight: 5 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m.

Mosad Harav Kook Synagogue (Hapoel Hamizrahi Qr.): Tonight: 4.47 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m. Arvit: 5.40 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Beit Yisrael (96 Dizengoff Road): Tonight: 5.05 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8.15 p.m. Sermon: Rabbi Dr. Isserman.

Ihud Shivat Zion (67 Ben Yehuda St.) Tonight: 5.15 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 6.30 & 8.30 a.m. Minha: 5 p.m.

Ihud Shivat Zion (5 Straus St.): Tonight: 5.15 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m. Minha: 5.15 p.m.

The Great Synagogue (Allenby Rd.): Tonight: 4.30 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m.

Tiferet Zvi Synagogue (9 Herman Cohen St.): Tonight, 5.15 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit 8.30 a.m.

Young Israel (67 Burrashov): Tonight: 5.30 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 9 a.m.

RAMAT GAN

Hatchia Synagogue: Tonight: 5.25 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit: 8 a.m. Minha: 5.05 p.m. Arvit: 5.50 p.m.

HAIFA

Anglo-Saxon Congregation (Reali School, 15 Kiryat Sefer St., Ahuza): Shahrit: 10 a.m.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

TODAY

JERUSALEM: Ruhama, 28 David Yellin, 3788. Resnik, 15 Gaza, 3662. TEL AVIV: Avramsky, 43 Allenby, 3526. Greenberg, 46 King George, 36306. Kastle, 147 Ibn Gavirol, 22116. Yaffa, 172 Ben Yehuda, 24543. Maccabi, New Maccabi Quarter. JAFFA: 61 Rehov 4. PETAH TIKVA: Kobo, 2 Pinsker. RAMAT GAN: Pinski, Cor. 41 Hibat Zion. Israel, Herut Qtr. B'NEI BRAK: Hadarsah, Bichron Meir. RISHON LE-ZION: Karlan. HOLON: Ribek, Kikar Struma.

HAIFA: Natan, 31 Joseph, 2364. Manor, 17 Garden, 4733. KIRYAT MOTZKIN: Mo'ukin, 7202. SAFAD: Ha'ari. NAHARIYA: Nahariya, Merkaz.

TOMORROW

JERUSALEM: Herut, Jaffa Road, near Rivoli, 5060. Oplatka, Jaffa Road, Mahne Yehuda, 4021.

TEL AVIV (Day): Brieman, 56 Allenby, 52352. Shora, 61 King George, 22968. Krinkin, 10 Herzl, 5323. Kolander, 76 Arlosoroff, 36512. Mendlekorn, 53 Nachmani, 3556. Baruch, Halikva Qtr., 67405. (Evening) Dr. Kolberg, 23 Allenby, 32335. Moshkowitz, 25 King George, 62650. Ben Yehuda, 142 Ben Yehuda, 23585. Bielski, 2 Dizengoff Circus, 36349. Baruch, Hatikvah Qtr., 67405. JAFFA: 6 Rehov 3, 52532. PETAH TIKVA: Asuta, 7 Struma. RAMAT GAN: 51 Bialik, 71514. RAMAT YITZHAK: 86 Hatcho, 71949. B'NEI BRAK: Hadassah, Bichron Meir. RISHON LEZION: Karlan. HOLON: Briut, 104 Sokolov.

HAIFA: Glosman, 13 Balfour, 4033. Nizmas, 25 Khouri, 4197. Maor, 107 Moriah. KIRYAT MOTZKIN: Motzkin, 7202. SAFAD: Ha'ari. NAHARIYA: Merkaz.

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

TODAY

JERUSALEM: Dr. Levinger, 33 King George, 2877. Dr. Barfield, 26 Usishkin, 3876. Dr. Haim, 11/4 German Colony, 2730.

TEL AVIV: Shaham, 1 Syrkin, 25842. Dr. Shore, 54 Sokolov, 26383.

JAFFA: Dr. Weinberg, 4 Rehov 65.

HAIFA: Dr. Csobal, 34 Feymer, 3666. Dr. Ludwig, 24 Shivat Zion, 67417.

TOMORROW

JERUSALEM: Romanoff, 11 Arlosoroff, 61217. Dr. Altshuler, 8 Strauss, 4071. Dr. Shore, 26 Rashi.

TEL AVIV: Dr. Shaham, 1 Syrkin, 25842. Dr. Shore, 54 Sokolov, 26383.

JAFFA: Dr. Weinberg, 4 Rehov 65. Dr. Alkalai, 65 Rehov 4.

HAIFA (Day): Dr. Sherman, 3 Hanevi'im, 2424. Dr. Golergant, 1 Gilead, 4170. Dr. Ludwig, 24 Shivat Zion, 67417. (Night): Dr. Ludwig, 24 Shivat Zion, 67417. Dr. Sherman, 3 Hanevi'im, 2424. Dr. Hampel, 104 Jaffa, 66328.

Tel Aviv Stock Market

FEBRUARY 16, 1956

Pub. Loans	
1949/50 (IL10)	101½
4½% Taxes Dollar 1977	71½
6% Comp. Loan 56/57	98½
2½% War Loan 54/55	99½
3½% Gov. Bds (large)	99½
4% Reg. Bonds "A"	92½
6% Reg. Sterling "B"	96½
Pal. Bearer Bds. Ser. 2	82
Bk. Leumi ord. sh.	220
A.F.H. Investm. ord. sh. "B"	111½
Gazit ord. sh. "B"	101½
Ellern's Inv. ord.	136½
P.E.C. Inv. ord. "B" sh.	98½
Geo. Mertz Bk. ord. sh.	76
Bijur 4% debs. 56/65	82½
Nir 6% Debs. (bearer)	93½
5% pref. sh.	86
Pass 6% debs. 60/64 reg.	79½
"Iyun" 5% debs.	85
I.L.D.C. ord. sh. reg.	309½
5% debs.	83
4% Pal. Inv. ord. sh.	79
Kasco 6% pref. ord. sh. (I)	99½
Pal. Potash 6% pref. sh.	216
"A" ord. shares	111
Pal. Elec. pref. sh. (Lots)	233
6½% P.E.C. Debs. 57/64	101 *
	102½**
Mekorot pref. sh.	74½
4½ ord. "B" sh.	117½
6-8% conv. debs.	98
"Kardaneh" ord. "B"	122½
7% conv. debs. 59/69	92½
Koller-Dan ord. sh. rev. x	97½
Pal.-Brewery 9% con. sh.	83½
Assia Reinsce. "B" sh.	139½
"Tuva" ord. sh. (I)	106
Nesher 6% debs. "A"	104½
Pal. Cold St. 7% debs.	143
ord. sh. reg. (full div.)	222
Pal. Constr. Tr. 8% debs.	95

Notes: a) purchase price; b) selling price; c) ex coupon; d) ex dividend; e) ex right; x) in % of IL1,000; y) 15.6./15.12; * Dollar or Index.

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TEL AVIV, Thursday, Feb. 23, 1956, "Ohel Shem," 8.30 p.m.
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Notices to the Public

ATTENTION GUESTS FROM ABROAD

The Committee for the Promotion of Holiday Pilgrimages announces that the traditional "Tsavta" will be held tonight at 6.30, and tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the Savoy Hotel, 5 Rehov Gegin, Tel Aviv. The "Tsavta" will be dedicated to the Rashi Commemoration Period which was announced by the Committee on Religious Customs and Rites of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

The writer H. Leiberman, New York, Rabbi B.M. Kasper, London and Dr. S.Z. Cahana will participate in the "Tsavta." Songs and hymns by cantors Tuvya, Frankel and Haber will also be included in the programme.

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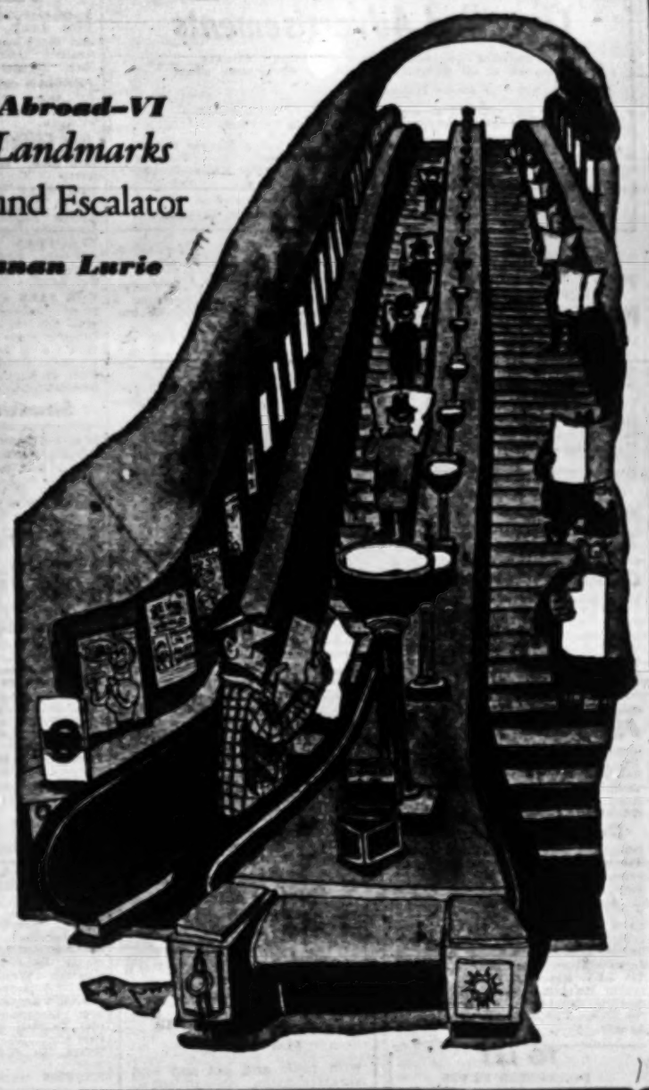



A Sabra Abroad—VI

London Landmarks

Underground Escalator

By Raanan Lurie



This moving stairway has one advantage — you can read your newspaper as you go up and down it, and this is England's second national sport — after golf.

By arrangement with "Dvar Hashavua."

Sir Anthony Not Only Down But Out

By GEORGE LICHTHEIM
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — IF the game had not become a bore, one could spend a profitable hour this week-end collecting all the smart remarks that have been made about Sir Anthony Eden's visit to Washington and the "poor man's Atlantic Charter" he brought back in his valise from that journey.

One would of course have to start with the irrepressible Mr. Malcolm Muggeridge, that anarchist of the Right, who this week transfers his weekly onslaught on the Premier from the columns of "Punch" to those of the "New Statesmen;" then proceed to Mr. Henry Fairlie's customary dose of vitriol in the "Spectator;" and go on from there to Vicky's cartoons in the "Daily Mirror," not omitting "Peterborough's" sneers in the "Daily Telegraph" and "The Times'" acid comment on the style of the "Washington Declaration."

But the thing is no longer worth doing. What is the good of hitting a man who is not only down but out? The fact is that Sir Anthony is no longer taken seriously. His remaining defenders — including press officers abroad who are understandably worried about this state of affairs — had better arrange for his quiet disappearance from the scene, instead of blaming the journalists who after all are merely doing their job.

What can be said in defence of the pompous and trivial document that is the Washington communique is being said this week, with a great straining after politeness and hands-across-the-seas, by the "Spectator's" Washington correspondent, Mr. Richard Rovere:

> The chief comment heard about the Declaration of Washington was that it was a statement of policy conspicuously inferior in form and content to the President's reply to the first Bulganin letter. The Prime Minister's speeches and his news conference were uninspired but agreeable. They fired no imaginations, and threw no new light on any of the day's problems. On the other hand it can perhaps be argued that solidarity is increased by a merely commonplace performance: there is something pleasant and reassuring in the thought that the Prime Minister can take a leisurely boat trip here and address the American people with banalities similar in spirit and tone and phrasing to those they are accustomed to hearing from their own President.

Not a very stirring defence, but perhaps the best that can be offered.

No decision having been reached at the talks about the Middle East (or, for that matter, the Far East) the semi-official commentators are hard put to discover something to say. In general it seems to be agreed that "differences were narrowed," and in particular that the British now have a clearer understanding of why it is impossible for the President and Mr. Dulles to ask Congress for powers of intervention similar to those exercised in the China Seas. But that, after all, could have been found out through the usual ambassadorial channels.

It is not even certain that Sir Anthony has succeeded in dissuading Mr. Dulles altogether from the idea of letting Israel have some arms. Apparently the threat of such a development is to be left hanging over the heads of Colonel Nasser and his friends — just in case; this technique, however ineffective it may be, does differ from Whitehall's own prescription of a firm and unilateral arms boycott on Israel while the "Trieste" solution is being canvassed. The Americans, it seems, still believe in putting pressure on *both* sides, though to Israelis the pressure may seem unequal. There is a small but perhaps not totally insignificant difference here, unperceived, it seems, even by Mr. Randolph Churchill, who normally has few illusions about Sir Anthony Eden. At any rate no one here supposes that it will be thanks to Sir Anthony if Israel gets any arms this year.



Washington Declaration being signed by Eden and Eisenhower a fortnight ago. Standing are Selwyn Lloyd, British Foreign Secretary; John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State; and Winthrop Aldrich, U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain.

Letter from Paris

The Protestant Communist

By MAURICE CARR
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

TITO'S revolt against Stalin, against the popish authority wielded by the Kremlin over the world Communist movement, has brought on to the political stage a remarkable new figure — the Protestant Communist.

This newcomer should not be confused with that stock character, the renegade, who curses the faith he once worshipped. The Protestant Communist still believes in Marxist-Leninist salvation; but he wants a reformation.

The aims of Protestant Communism have perhaps never been more forcibly stated than in the book just published here, "La Révolution et les Fétiches" (Revolution and Fetishes), by Pierre Hervé. This heavily dialectical and, in parts, indigestible treatise has become the talk of the town.

A few years ago, as Assistant Editor of the Communist daily, "L'Humanité," Pierre Hervé attracted widespread attention by his almost daily bouts of polemics with the great Catholic writer, Francois Mauriac, who was then a contributor to the conservative daily, "Figaro."

Weeds Own Garden

Times have changed. Mauriac no longer bothers about the mote in the Communist eye, but decries the shortcomings of his own French bourgeois and Roman Catholic camp. While Hervé, who has ceased to spit fire at the bourgeoisie, says harsher things about certain trends in the Communist movement than the caustic Mauriac ever did. Each is busy plucking at the weeds in his own garden. In each case, the access of self-criticism and of indulgence for the other side is based on the common fear that the gathering hatreds in this nuclear age are a threat not simply to one or another way of life, but to all forms of life.

In the first part of his book, Hervé poses the question "to be, or not to be?" for mankind as a whole. "The hour approaches for the decisive choice between death and Socialism," he writes, "but there is no Providence which guarantees that this total choice will in fact be made in good time, and in consequence a *modus vivendi* has to be sought out.

> "The apocalyptical principle, according to which 'the worse things are in the capitalist world, so much the better,' could be justified when capitalism ruled the world undivided. At a pinch, it could still be justified at a time when the Soviet Union was the one and only base of Socialism and, wretched and weak, could not have stood up to a concerted attack by the imperialists. But today, Soviet power counterbalances American power, and China as well as the European Popular Democracies stand at the side of the U.S.S.R. . . . With the new relationship of strength, there is no longer any dispute or quarrel in the world which does not tend to spread or, as the saying goes, become internationalised. Revolutionaries must accordingly condemn the policy of 'the worse, the better,' which, willy-nilly, is liable to involve the socialist world in a global war . . ."

"Let us face the problem," Hervé goes on to say. "Suppose the seizure of power by the Communists in France were to provoke, as well it might, a war between the Soviet Union and the U.S. What should we do in such a case, if not declare ourselves opposed to the seizure of power by Communism?"

Elsewhere Hervé, echoing Khrushchev, proclaims his conviction that the Socialist half of the globe would emerge victorious from an atomic conflict. But that, he points out, would be small consolation for the massacres, for the devastation of what has already been built up at such immense sacrifice. And then — echoing Malenkov — he hastens to add that the risk of complete extermination of *homo sapiens* cannot by any means be altogether ruled out.

The Communists, Hervé concludes, should therefore abandon their revolutionary objectives in Western Europe. This does not mean, he asserts, that the hope of Socialism in Western Europe need be given up.

"Is it not feasible," he asks, "that in a world where Socialism will already have proved its superiority in practice, certain capitalist countries may make the transition to Socialism (by peaceful, constitutional means) without their necessarily staging a repetition of October, 1917, or of what the bourgeois press called the 'Prague putsch'?"

To support his contention that the old "fetishes" must be dropped and that changed circumstances must be tackled with a fresh outlook, Hervé quotes this excerpt from a report read by Lenin in 1917:

> "The Marxist must take into account living reality, precise and concrete facts, and must not cling to yesterday's theory, which, like any theory, is at best capable of indicating the essentials, the generalities, giving an approximation of the complexity of life. Theory is dry, my friend, but the eternal tree of life is green."

Early on in the book, Hervé demands: "But why raise aloud this question (of the abandonment of revolutionary methods and objectives in Western Europe)?" Some bourgeois commentators have hazarded the reply that the author was put up to it by the Russian Embassy in Paris and that the mud slung at him by the French Communist press for his pains is mere camouflage. Be that as it may, Hervé's own explanation is: "Questions should always be asked, otherwise one becomes a blind slave of ideology."

Asks for Tolerance

For the greater part of 204 pages, Pierre Hervé pleads powerfully for greater freedom of thought and speech within the Communist movement, for more tolerance and respect for the inquiring, independent mind. The bare list of Communist malpractices or "fetishes" which he assails is too lengthy to be cited here. But his principal complaint is that the "ism" in Communism has been transformed into an old-style mystical religion, of which Moscow is the Holy City, the Party is the Church, the leaders are divinely inspired — so long as they do not fall from grace — while the bureaucrats enjoy priestly status, the rank-and-file faithfully cry amen, ritual is sacred, and nonconformism, individual reasoning, is punishable heresy.

Church and State, according to Hervé, have become inadmissibly intertwined in Communist countries, resulting in a totalitarian regime where the totality of human activities is dominated by the Church State. The Communist State has to separate itself from the Communist Church, he argues.

Hervé ends on an optimistic note. "If in the Soviet Union during the past 20 years the exposition of Marxism has taken a Byzantine and scholastic turn, that was due to the immense pedagogical needs, but now under the influence of a return to Lenin the new leaders call for a less primitive form of intellectual nourishment," he writes. And in the French Communist Party, too, he discerns strong "underground rumblings" in favour of freedom and against the compulsions of untruth and violence."

Bargain Mooted

Hervé does not indicate what *quid pro quo* the East would expect from the West in return for dismantling some of the revolutionary structure, for neutralization, that is, of the Communist movement in Western Europe. That is one of the things that might usefully be explored at a future "summit" meeting between East-West leaders.

Is the Soviet bloc ready to come to a genuine agreement to concern itself exclusively with the peaceful development and gradual liberalization of its own part of the world, disavowing Communist revolution beyond a clearly drawn frontier, while the West in turn repudiates anti-Communist crusading and would-be liberation on the other side of the same frontier?

That is the question, on which depends—as Hervé and Mauriac and lesser spirits recognize — the ultimate survival of civilization, if not of all animal life. For it is unreasonable to gamble on the off-chance that the two blocs will be able to dance perpetually on the brink of war, or that one bloc will be able to overwhelm the other, without their both falling into the radioactive gulf.

From the Memoirs of Harry Truman

Years of Trial and Hope

CONFERENCE ON KOREA

THE massive counter blow by which the Chinese halted MacArthur's offensive was perhaps even more of a shock abroad than it was for us at home. Foreign newspapers speculated openly about the American reaction, quoting some of our more sabre-rattling Senators, and talking about MacArthur's ill-concealed disapproval of the American Government's policies. There actually were open predictions that we would disregard the United Nations and plunge straight on into war with China and with anyone else who might be on China's side.

Just how sensitive and on edge the world had become, was demonstrated when the word "atom bomb" was mentioned at my press conference on November 30.

I made the remark that "we will take whatever steps are necessary to meet the military situation just as we always have."

"Will that include the atomic bomb?" one of the reporters asked.

"That includes every weapon that we have," I replied.

"Mr. President," the questioner shot back, "you said 'every weapon that we have.' Does that mean that there is active consideration of the use of the atomic bomb?"

"There has always been active consideration of its use," I told him. "I don't want to see it used. It is a terrible weapon, and it should not be used on innocent men, women and children who have nothing whatever to do with this military aggression. That happens when it is used."

To make quite sure that no one would misunderstand my words, I authorized Charles Ross, my Press Secretary, to issue a separate clarifying statement after the press conference:

> . . . It should be emphasized, that, by law, only the President can authorize the use of the atom bomb, and no such authorization has been given. If and when such authorization should be given, the military commander in the field would have charge of the tactical delivery of the weapon . . .

In spite of this, news reports persisted that I had threatened to use the A-bomb in Korea. In London, 100 Labour M. P.'s signed a letter to Prime Minister Attlee to protest the possibility of the use of the atomic bomb. During a debate which our Embassy described as "the most serious, anxious, and responsible debate on foreign affairs conducted by the House of Commons since the Labour Party came to power in 1945," not only the followers of Mr. Aneurin Bevan (Labourite leader) but also Churchill, Eden and Butler talked about "disquiet" and indicated that they wanted to be assured that events in Korea would not propel the world into a major war.

Attlee announced at the end of this debate in the House of Commons that he was planning to fly over for conferences with me and so greatly was the tension relieved by his statement that it brought cheers from both sides of the House.

CLEMENT Attlee arrived in Washington on December 4, and we had our first formal talks from 4 to 5:35 that afternoon.

The Prime Minister said that opinion in the United Nations and in the countries of Europe, Asia, and America had to be considered. He had been in close touch through all this time with the Asian members of the Commonwealth, and suggested that we ought to look, also, at the point of view of the Chinese Communists. They were feeling flushed with success and would not want to settle for some principle announced by the United Nations, to which they did not belong. Even if the Russians might think of a settlement, that might not necessarily convince Mao Tse-tung.

What, Attlee asked, were the Communists likely to demand as the price for a cease-fire?

I asked Secretary Acheson to express our position. He pointed out that, first of all, it had to be remembered that the central enemy was not China, but the Soviet Union.

He added that he could not be optimistic about prospects of negotiations with the Chinese Communists. We did not have an alternative of either negotiating or becoming involved in war. We were actually involved at the moment.

Need Cease-Fire

From a military point of view, he observed, there seemed to be an advantage to us from a cease-fire as soon as possible. But the Chinese would not be likely to accept it. It seemed predictable that the Chinese Communists would ask for recognition of their government, for a seat in the United Nations Security Council, and for concessions on Formosa. They might even insist that any Japanese peace settlement had to have their assent.

The Prime Minister inquired what the reaction of the American public would be if we continued to hold the beachheads with continuing losses. Would there not be a demand for all-out war against China?

I replied that such demands could be heard now. I admitted that all my military advisers had told me that there was no chance to hold the line. But that I still wanted to try.

Attlee observed that opinions differed on the extent to which the Chinese Communists were Kremlin satellites.

I said that in my opinion the Chinese Communists were Russian satellites. After Korea, it would be Indo-China, then Hong Kong, then Malaya.

Acheson remarked that it really didn't matter too much whether the Chinese Communists were satellites or not. He said there was a saying among State Department officials that with Communistic regimes you could not bank goodwill; they balance their books every night.

General Marshall recalled the several meetings he had had with Mao Tse-tung and with Chou En-lai during his mission to China. He said that Chou on one occasion had with great emphasis told Mrs. Marshall at the dinner table that there was no doubt they were Marxist Communists and that he resented people referring to them as merely agrarian reformers. Marshall said there had been not the slightest attempt to conceal their Moscow affiliations. They regarded the Russians as co-religionists and this feeling was thoroughly indoctrinated in their troops.

Would Not Provoke

I wanted to add emphasis to what Acheson had said about our desire to avoid war with China. I therefore recounted what had transpired on Wake Island between MacArthur and myself, especially pointing out that I had told MacArthur to avoid giving any provocation to the Chinese in Manchuria and the Russians in Vladivostok and adding that we had no desire to act in this matter except as members of the United Nations.

I emphatically repeated that it was out of the question that we should get out voluntarily. All the Koreans left behind who had been loyal to the United Nations would face death. The Communists cared nothing about human life.

OUR next session was aboard the Presidential yacht Williamsburg the following day. Attlee then proceeded to give us the point of view of his Government. In his opinion the Chinese Communists were potentially ripe for "Titoism." He could not consider that China was completely in the hands of Russia, and therefore the aim ought to be to divide the Russians and the Chinese—who are natural rivals in the Far East.

"I think," he said, "that all of us should try to keep the Chinese from thinking that Russia is their only friend. If we just treat the Chinese as Soviet satellites, we are playing the Russian game."

Acheson then made a telling point: It would be a very confusing thing to try and get the American people to accept aggression in the Far East and not accept it in Europe.

We could not buy the friendship of the Chinese Communists, Acheson insisted, and we ought not to try to prove that we were more friendly to them than the Russians. After what they had done to us, it seemed to him that the Chinese would have to prove that they were our friends. Our position, Acheson went on, was now that we ought to get the military power and the strength to stop this sort of thing from happening in the future.

I added that it was important to realize that the U.S. could do nothing abroad without solid backing at home. We could not back out of the Far East. The American people would not stand for it. It was impossible.

Attlee said he understood that our foreign policy was dependent upon keeping the American people together. But it was also essential, he added, to keep the U.N. together. Furthermore, we had to keep Asiatic opinion together—nothing would be more dangerous than for the Asiatics to split away from us. Acheson broke in. "Weakening the U.S.", he said, "would be definitely more dangerous."

Attlee continued to argue the case for a policy that would consider the adherence of the Asiatic nations to the West as the primary aim. He turned to me, saying that he knew that I would have to consider public opinion about Chiang Kai-shek and Formosa, but that he hoped I would also remember that whatever we did would have to be done through the U.N., and it could not be done there by the efforts and votes of just the U.S. and the United Kingdom, "important as we are."

Seating China

This brought the discussion to the question of whether the seating of the Chinese Communists at the U.N. should be considered as a subject that might be included in negotiations with them.

Acheson took the position that we should not even consider it. If we did, we would in effect be saying to the Communists that they had won the game and could now collect the stakes.

If we assumed that the Communists were indeed moving with great speed toward war, then it would be a grievous mistake to try to buy off the aggressor just before he breaks loose. "My own guess is that it wouldn't work," the Secretary continued. "All we might get would be time, but never enough time to do any good. Just enough time to divide our people bitterly. Just enough time to lose our moral strength."

Attlee seemed a little taken aback. Acheson, he said, was assuming that negotiations would mean retreat all along the line.

Acheson replied that his point was that we should not get into negotiations until we knew where we were going. Of course, if we got thrown out of Korea there would be no negotiations, but we would have made our point.

I added that we would face terrible divisions among our people here at home if the Chinese Communists were admitted to the U.N. Would they be any different from the Russians? I said I expected them to behave just like the other satellites.

I talked, as strongly as I knew how, about the language the Chinese Reds were using about us at Lake Success, and the falsehoods they were spreading. I said their handling of our missionaries and of our consuls was a blot on humanity. There was nothing in getting them admitted to the U.N. until they changed their ways.

We could not afford to let Formosa go, Marshall said. It was of no particular strategic importance in our hands, but it would be of disastrous importance if it were held by an enemy.

"We can't open our whole flank now by giving up Formosa," I said. "We just can't agree with that. I think in the long run the Chinese will realize that their real friends are not in Moscow and Siberia; they are in London and in Washington."

"You won't bring them to that realization," the Prime Minister said without smiling. "If you keep fighting them."

"No," I said, "but I won't back out of Korea . . ."

"I am with you there," said Attlee.

There was a pause. We had made our points and knew where we differed.

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PELTOURS PEL PELTOURS

TRAVEL · TOURS · INSURANCE · FREIGHT

DEPARTURES: FEBRUARY 19—FEBRUARY 25, 1956

FROM LYDDA AIRPORT

Date	Time	Company	Destination
SUN.	0630	CYPRUS AIR	Nicosia, Athens, Rome, London
Feb. 19	0900	L.A.I.	Athens, Rome
	1100	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Zurich, Paris, New York
	1200	EL AL	Athens, Paris, London, New York
TUES.	0610	S.A.S.	Istanbul, Vienna, Duesseldorf, Copenhagen, Stockholm
Feb. 21	0630	CYPRUS AIR	Nicosia, Athens, Rome, London
	0800	SWISSAIR	Athens, Geneva, Zurich
	0845	SABENA	Athens, Brussels, New York
	1000	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Paris, New York
	1100	K.L.M.	Munich, Amsterdam, New York
	1200	EL AL	Istanbul
WED.	0800	L.A.I.	Rome, New York.
Feb. 22	1100	T.W.A	Athens, Rome, Geneva, Paris, New York
	1700	EL AL	Nicosia
THURS.	0610	AIR FRANCE	Teheran
Feb. 23	0645	CYPRUS AIR	Nicosia, Athens, Milan, London
	0900	EL AL	Rome, Paris, London, New York
	1000	T.A.E.	Nicosia, Athens
	1015	K.L.M.	Rome, Amsterdam, New York
	1015	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Frankfurt, Paris
FRI.	0800	EL AL	Istanbul
Feb. 24			
SAT.	2200	EL AL	Rome, Vienna, Zurich, Brussels
Feb. 25			

FROM HAIFA AIRPORT

FRI.	0845	CYPRUS AIR	Nicosia, Istanbul.
Feb. 24			

FROM HAIFA PORT

Feb. 22 s.s. "JERUSALEM" . . . Marseilles.

PELTOURS

TEL AVIV: 23 Rehov Ahad Ha'am, Telephones: 63510/7 & 66734/5
JERUSALEM: 2 Rehov Shlomzion Hamalka, Telephones: 4316/9
HAIFA: 25 Ha'atzmaut Road, Telephones: 6261/3
REHOVOT: Rehov Herzl, Telephone: 554

What's New

By DAHN BEN-AMOTZ

MARTHA Graham, the famous American dancer, and her group are now appearing before packed houses in Tel Aviv. When we heard last week of the block-long ticket-hysterical queues in front of Habimah's box office, we rushed over to sentative Mr. Craig Barton, and the Dan Hotel to see her representative, Mr. Barton pointed out the view of Jaffa and the deserted promenade and said, "The most beautiful scenery in Israel is right outside my window." Then he opened the door, shouted "Rosa!" and explained that Rosa, the chambermaid, was washing his sweater, and that the service in the hotel was absolutely excellent.

Mr. Barton is a tall lean man of about 50 (later, when we asked him for some personal details, he said, "I am in my twenties and I am very beautiful") wearing a grey crew-cut and, on that particular morning, grey slacks, a grey sweater and sunglasses. We asked him to give us some details about the Graham group and his part in it. After we had broken this down into sub-questions, we learned that:

The group, which arrived at Lydda in three planes, bringing with it five tons of costumes, scenery and sound and lighting equipment, includes 23 people, 14 of whom are dancers. The music for the group's dances was recorded on tape by RCA, as performed by the first musicians of the Boston, New York and Philadelphia Symphonies and the Symphony of the Air, conducted by Eugene Lester.

The group's tour of the Far East, which took in Tokyo, Manila, Bangkok, Singapore, Kuala Lampur (and who knew that this was the capital of Malaya?), Jakarta, Rangoon, Dacca (capital of East Pakistan), Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, New Delhi, Colombo, Karachi, Abadan, and Teheran, was financed by the State Department. It seems, however, that the State Department co ldn't afford, politically or otherwise, to cover the expenses of the group's side trip to Israel which winds up the tour, so in this case the bill



will be picked up by the American Fund for Israel Institutions, and the Beth Sabee de Rothschild Fund for Arts and Sciences, while Habimah are acting as local managers. The Israel public has been trying its best to repay these benefactors by snapping up even the IL12 tickets.

The troupe is spending two weeks in this country and is appearing seven times in Tel Aviv, twice in Haifa and twice in Jerusalem, all under the patronage of the U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Edward Lawson, as well as that of the police, who have the job of directing the crowds outside the theatre, and the fire brigade, whose representatives invariably turn up with their hatches at sell-out performances.

Mr. Barton, who until this week hadn't laid eyes on the group since they left America, has the job of checking and staging the theatres, arranging accommodation), supervising advance publicity (through Habimah), arranging and printing the programmes and planning a complete timetable for the group, including social commitments.

The telephone rang and Mr. Barton excused himself. "Yes," he said into the phone. "There will be two performances in Haifa. Thank you, it's all right now." Meanwhile Rosa the chambermaid came in and laid the damp sweater out on a towel on the bed. There were a great many papers, files and cables lying on the table together with some books. Among them we noticed "The Seven Arts," "The Dark Eye of Africa," "The Man Who Never Was," and "How Not to Write a Play." There was a reproduction of a painting by Nahum Guttman hanging on the wall.

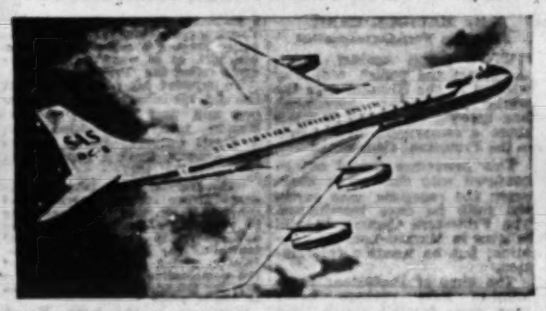
When Mr. Barton had finished his conversation we tried to squeeze some further information from him, not about Martha Graham herself, since she will most likely get her due in the papers, but about the rest of the company. Well, the group includes three Negroes, one French girl, one Indonesian, one Scot, one Peruvian, one Fin and no less than five Jews. The general manager of the group is a 30-year-old Southerner by the name of Manley Roy Lederman, who has published two novels and is planning to write his third book about Martha Graham.

The wardrobe mistress is none other that Beth Sabee de Rothschild herself who, we were told, is a charming and clever young woman, a geneticist by profession, who is apparently infatuated with dance. The assistant stage manager is a Peruvian painter by the name of Alphonse Umana, who has had some success in New York and is married to Helen McGehee, one of the company's leading dancers. The stage manager, Charles Hyman, is married to another of the dancers, Ethel Winter.

By arrangement with "Ha'aretz"

Aviation News and Views

JOINING THE JET PARADE



The Douglas DC8 Jet Airliner

By "AIRBORNE"

SCANDINAVIA to Japan in 17 hours via the North Pole instead of the present 50 hours will be the first achievement of Scandinavian Airlines System (S.A.S.) as a result of their purchase of seven Douglas DC 8 jets. Time to California by the same route will be cut to 24 hours from the present 27 and the direct flight to New York goes down from 19 hours to 8.

The take-off weight of the new Douglas, on a par with most of the great new jet planes, will be 125 tons. The cruising speed is 900 kilometres per hour, and it will carry 104 mixed tourist and first-class passengers or 134 tourists.

Joining the jet parade is T.W.A. with eight Boeing Stratoliners, the first of 30 to be acquired within the next few months. Delivery is timed for the summer of 1959. Top speed of the Boeing is 960 kilometres per hour, and this will cut the Los Angeles-New York run to 4 hours 15 minutes, just slightly more than the bus journey from Jerusalem to Haifa.

Similar craft have also been scheduled for delivery to Sabena, also in 1959. They will cut the Brussels-New York run, fully loaded with 136 passengers, crew of eight and built-in radar, to 7 hours 20 minutes and the return trip to 6 hours 35 minutes.

Eating in Flight . . .

AT the present rate of progress, it seems that there will soon be little time to eat on the Transatlantic run. Meanwhile, however, K.L.M. brings good news for gastronomes with the opening of their new catering building at Schiphool. It includes a gas range that is big enough to roast an elephant (six metres long) and a cauldron in which 100 litres of soup can be prepared at one time.

A unique feature is the *kasher* kitchen, where meals for orthodox Jewish passengers are prepared under rabbinical supervision.

. . . and Reading

On the first floor of this building is the Reading Department, which supplies mental pabulum. Each year it issues a million newspapers and 241,000 up-to-date periodicals, to say nothing of the provision of local newspapers *en route*.

NEW MAP OF MARS

A photographic map of Mars, which may reveal new facts about the topography of that planet, is to be prepared by the observatory of Agassiz, belonging to Harvard University in the United States. The map will be made by means of radar beams projected over the entire surface of Mars and reflected onto a screen, the results being photographed by the observatory's radio telescope.

Exact observation of the disc of Mars is difficult, not only because of its relatively great distance from the earth, but also owing to the light being affected by properties in the earth's atmosphere. The radar beams, however, will pierce this atmospheric barrier. (UNESCO)

New Life For Cars

THANKS to the tremendous progress made by the world's oil and fuel chemists, the motorists of this country are soon going to feel new life throbbing under the hoods of their cars.

The multigrade engine oil lately concocted in the laboratories of the big oil companies will stand the most adverse conditions. The oil streams immediately to the vital points no matter how cold the start, and it does not lose its viscosity at high temperatures. These and other engine-saving properties, such as ingredients that minimize deposits and sludge, contribute to trouble-free operation and tend to extend engine life.

All of us have noticed how an engine "knocks" or detonates when the automobile is under a severe strain, such as climbing a hill or accelerating in high gear. Such a condition, especially frequent in today's highly compressed engines, is due to the "nervousness" of low-octane fuel, which cannot stand the high pressures set up when combustion starts.

This situation, which is extremely detrimental to engine life, will be eliminated when the new 79-octane grade of petrol is made available to the motoring public this month.

It should be pointed out, however, that improvements in performance will only be felt in engines of higher compression ratios. It is therefore essential that those motorists who have been trying to overcome engine detonation by adding an additional cylinder head gasket or by retarding the ignition should remove the former and reset the latter in order to gain the full advantages of the coming high-octane fuel. *HAIM BEN-ZVI*

The Acid Test of Honesty

By EPHRAIM KISHON

SOME time ago, my wife declared that she could no longer cope with her household duties which had grown out of all proportion since we acquired a canary bird. She therefore demanded the immediate hiring of an experienced charwoman. After a thorough inquiry, we decided on Mazal, a woman with an immaculate reputation in the whole neighbourhood. This Mazal is a middle-aged member of the Oriental community with a somewhat scholarly air due to a pair of wire-rimmed glasses precariously perched on the tip of her nose. It was a case of love at first sight: we knew that Mazal was just the person to relieve my overworked spouse.

All was smooth sailing, until our neighbour, Mrs. Shavua Tov, placed the seeds of distrust in our all-too-willing ears.

"Simpletons," Mrs. Shavua Tov said when she called on us one morning and found Mazal briskly pushing a broom. "If a woman like Mazal agrees to work for you, she certainly does not do it for the sake of the measly salary you pay her."

"So what else does she want?"

"To steal!"

•

WE indignantly rejected this baseless slander. Mazal would never do such a thing. Next Monday, however, my wife noticed that while sweeping the floor, Mazal never looked us in the eyes — just like Raskolnikov in "Crime and Punishment," also that the woman's dresses had oversized pockets.

In the best Hercule Poirot tradition, I also furtively observed her while pretending to read the newspaper, and noticed that she was cleaning our silverware with almost morbid pleasure. As the suspicious signs grew in number, the tension mounted, until it became unbearable and I proposed to call in the police. But my wife, who is an ardent reader of detective stories, drew my attention to the fact that so far, all our evidence against Mazal was only of the circumstantial variety. We therefore urgently asked Mrs. Shavua Tov for advice.

"You must trip up the monster" — our neighbour urged us. "Hide something, for instance a banknote, somewhere in your flat, and if she finds and does not return it, you can take her to court."

NEXT day, we set the trap. After careful deliberations, we decided to hide a five-pound note under the bathroom rug. The dishonest woman was to work there on that day. "If she does not return the note, by sundown," we swore, "we shall not rest before she is in deepest gaol." My wife placed the five-pound bait and we left the house feigning indifference.

On that day I was so tense that I hardly did any work, and when we met in the evening, my wife complained of a splitting headache. We worked out a detailed plan of operations, the gist of which was that Eve would delay the criminal by craft and cunning while I would alert the security forces.

Amid such cloak-and-dagger talk we reached home.

"Shalom," Mazal greeted us. "I found ten pounds under the bath mat."



WE mumbled a few disappointed words, then withdrew to our lair, completely flabbergasted. For a number of minutes, we could not look each other in the eye.

"In fact I always trusted our Mazal," Eve finally said. "I knew you were wrong when you mulishly insisted that such an honest creature could bring it upon herself to steal from her employers . . ."

"So it was I who said that she stole?!" I roared amid sarcastic laughter. "Don't be ridiculous! For the past two days I have been trying to protect this model woman against your disgusting insinuations . . ."

"Hahaha. You are very funny my dear . . ."

"So I am funny, what?!" I lost my temper. "Then perhaps you could tell me why you hid a ten-pound note under the bath rug, when we had agreed on a five-pound one? Had Mazal pinched the money — which naturally was out of the question — we would needlessly have lost five pounds."

We did not speak with each other until the evening.

WHEN Mazal had finished her day's work, she came to say good night. "Good night, Mazal," my wife said cordially. "Don't be late tomorrow." "All right" the charwoman replied. "Is there something madam wishes to give me?" "Give you something? No, my dear . . ."

This answer sparked the neighbourhood's noisest brawl in 2,000 years.

"So madam does not want to give me anything!" Mazal shrieked, and her eyes spurted fire and sulphur. "And what about my money? Ha?! You know only too well that you put a five-pound note under the bath rug, so that I should steal it! The smarties wanted to 'test' me . . ."

My wife changed colour and I hoped the ground would open up, but it didn't.

"Well, what are you waiting for?" Mazal became impatient. "Perhaps you want to keep my money?"

"Sorry, madam," I smiled ingratiatingly, "Here are your five pounds, madam . . ."

Mazal grabbed the money out of my hand and put it into one of her outsized pockets.

"It goes without saying," she added, "that I won't work in a house where they steal. A good thing that I tested you . . . one can't trust anybody nowadays . . . Terrible."

We never saw her again. And the worst part of the affair is that Mrs. Shavua Tov has spread the rumour that we had tried to rob a poor woman of her hard-won prutot.

By arrangement with "Ma'ariv"

CHESS

February 17, 1956

Problem No. 960
K.A. RASMUSSEN, Canada
Specially Composed for The Jerusalem Post



Problem No. 961
LEONID KUBBEL, 1929



Ke6; Qf5; Re1, Rg5; Bb1, Bd4; Ktc4, Kt6; Pg2. (9)
Kh4; Qc2; Bd7; Be2; Pc3, c7, g3. (7)
WHITE MATES IN TWO

Ka8; Qf5; Bd3, Bg3; Ktc6, Kte8. (6)
Kd5; Bb5, Bh2; Ba4; Kte5; Pb4, c3, e3, c7, f5, h5. (11)
WHITE MATES IN THREE

SOLUTIONS. Problem No. 944 (Ruppin): 1.Qc7! Problem No.945 (Talmi): 1.Ktc4! thr. 2.Qc5+!; 1.—K:c4 2.Bf3+; 1.—B:e5+ 2.B:e5+; 1.—e4 2.Bb3+; 1.—c5 2.Bf3; 1.—Bb6 2.Qd6+.

Chess in Israel

● **In the first round of the National Team championship league "A," the following will meet: Jerusalem — "Lasker;" "Reti" — Haifa; Ramat-Gan — Postal Workers; Zahal-Rishon Le Zion. Over 20 teams enlisted in league "B," including 10 teams from the labour settlements and a team of War Invalids. Play in this division will start in March.**

● **The "Reti" chess club has moved to its new premises in the Z.O.A. House and elected a new management composed of Messrs. Dr. Gruengard, Dr. Wolf, Herman, Fuss, Livni and Gorali. The preliminaries of the club championship ended with the following results: Section A: Gotti, Rauch, Ziner; Section B: Blass, Wolfinger, Makabi; Section C: Binor, Gorali, Peer; Section D: Atidi, Fuss, Shakki, which will form the finals.**

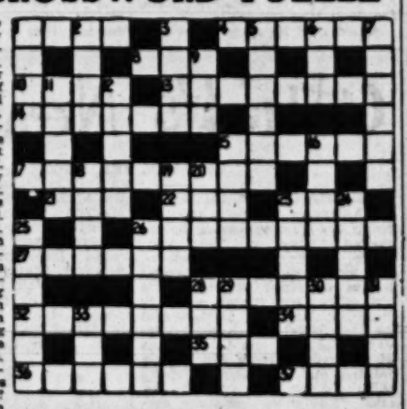
● **The 23rd U.S.S.R. Championship ended in a triple tie between Averbach, Spassky and Taimanov. Full details next week.**

Death of a Master

Dr. Saveli Tartakower, who died in Paris last week at the age of 69, was a great master of the royal game and had a highly successful career as a tournament player, winning a large number of first prizes. With his numerous publications he exerted great influence on the theory of chess.

Born in Rostov, Russia, Dr. Tartakower studied in Geneva and Vienna, where he obtained the degree of doctor of law. Since 1924 he lived in Paris. He wrote poetry in Russian, French and German. A brilliant conversationalist, he excelled in witty observations. One of his best-known remarks about chess was: "The blunders are all there waiting to be made."

POST CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS. — 1. Do they have a lucky lap? 4. Goes quickly. 8. Type of dish. 10. Help a sailor to a portion of spaghetti. 13. He'll do you if he can. 14. Built by arrangement with the caterer? 15. Is best if back home. 17. Building that may offer much variety. 21. Did Ananias take her in? 22. Sooner than. 23. Actually it's much larger than Lausanne. 26. Happen to act as substitute? 27. Young hen. 28. Maiden name. 32. Shun Evan for looking like this? 34. The losers thus ran. 35. Woodcut. 36. Happenings. 37. Does it come from Elba?

DOWN. — 1. An annoying animal to get. 2. Sounds a lovable beast. 3. Untruthful record, perhaps. 5. It may be indelible. 6. Measure. 7. Fish, but mostly animals. 9. On the farm for less than three weeks? 11. Started to plead for some funds? 12. Coach Jack, perhaps. 15. Run away from a depleted naval force? 16. She can make a sale. 18. Go with the wind. 19. It keeps the tempera ure up. 20. Historic vessel. 23. Very much a prefix. 24. Pieces of land. 25. Neat wood? 26. Occupier. 28. A gull on the seat? 29. Soon gets one on. 30. He wrote back in an air-mail envelope. 31. Crochet, perhaps. 33. Sweet girl.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS.—1. Wide. 4. Tracer. 8. Ban. 10. Smog. 13. Leave off. 14. Parried. 15. A-ram-a. 17. March past. 21. Wes. 22. Rip. 23. Sam. 26. Horse-play. 27. (weeping) Willow. 29. Infants. 32. Nose-dive. 34. T-ask. 35. Yon. 36. Stupor. 37. (old) Bean.

DOWN. — 1. Was-p. 2. Door. 3. Male. 5. Revert. 6. Coo. 7. Refuse. 9. Ned. 11. Ma-caw. 12. G-race. 15. Aspa. 16. Meal. 18. Real. 19. Frow. 20. Air. 24 Sp-rat. 24. Masts. 25. Swings. 26. Hoodoo. 28. Ivy. 29. Need. 30. Nave. 31. Skin. 33. Sou.

Radio Review

More Variety on the Air

"THREE in a Boat," the new series by Yitzhak Shimoni which started last week, turned out to be more party games. It was less ambitious but more successful than the initial editions of "Owls and Howls." This new feature is based on the art of improvisation. It started with such variations as musical improvisations played by Mark Lavry and based on notes suggested by members of the audience. This is a traditional form of amusement among the musically talented, and it proved highly acceptable over the air. Then Aharon Amir made up a poem which Lavry set to music and taught the entire audience.

Another form of improvisation was oral; three participants were placed in an imaginary predicament and asked to decide how they would act and why. The trio quickly caught the spirit of this game and Amnon Ahi-No'omi in particular proved himself possessed of a quick turn of wit. This simple feature has all the hallmarks of a popular hit, and represents the type of light entertainment which will bring the people to their radio sets.

ANOTHER recognized radio format which has proved its value is the magazine programme, and this is now being applied, in another monthly feature, to the academic world. Last week's edition included notes on the recent discovery regarding prenatal sex determination, a talk on some of the latest developments in microbiology, Dov Sdan on Yiddish studies at the Hebrew University and Dr. Yigael Yadin (who has a radiogenic personality) on his book about the Scroll of the Wars of the Sons of Light and the Sons of Darkness. The feature was edited by Nathan Cohen; granted the outline, it is hard to go wrong in a programme of this nature. There is room for imagination, but as a start this is a satisfactory series.

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THE death of Dr. Asriel Carlebach has taken from us the only man in the country capable of delivering a first-class radio talk. His broadcasts were not transplanted public speeches, academic lectures, or essays that never really came off the paper — but live, intimate talks, written in a homely, vivid fashion combining journalistic and histrionic talent. It is a pity that he was heard so seldom. He appeared recently in a number of discussions, but although he proved highly competent in this type of programme, his real forte remained the talk. Yet as far as I remember he spoke only three times — once on the eve of 1953, once on Josiah Wedgwood and once on Leo Motzkin. He created an atmosphere in the tradition of the great radio talkers (such as Priestley), and it remains a mystery why he gave no talks during his last two years.

PICK OF NEXT WEEK'S LISTENING: "Nehemiah" (today at 8.45); Heine Centenary (tomorrow at 9.30 p.m.); "Dragnet" (Sunday at 10.15); 14th and 15th century English music (Sunday at 10.45); Hindemith chamber music (Monday at 10.15); Erich Kastner's "The Flying Form" (Tues. at 8.15); Legal Advice (Weds. at 6.35); 11 Adar (Thurs. at 7.30).

AUDIO

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS

Attractive Miss Huda Nashef of Taybeh, from the Little Triangle area, made a warm appeal to help raise the standard of Arab women in Israel, at a conference broadcast over Kol Yisrael's Arabic transmission last Tuesday.

Miss Nashef, a student of the Hebrew University, took part in the first round table conference to discuss the affairs of the more than 65 Arab and Druze students now attending the University.

ON THE AIR

FIRST PROGRAMME
822, 249, 33.3 & 43.9 M.

News: Hebrew: 7 a.m. (tomorrow 8.30 a.m.); 1.30, 7.00, 9.00 & 12.00 p.m. **Arabic Programme** (including News): 8 a.m., 2.15 and 5.45 p.m.

TODAY

6.00 a.m. Morning Programme (Haifa only). 6.30 Service. 6.35 Exercise 6.45 Musical Clock (R). 7.15 Melodies (R). 9.00 Close Down.

12.00 N. "Music at Noon" Sarah Yeari. 12.30 "Military Bands" (R). 12.50 Programme for Hospitals (R). 1.45 Two minutes for the Mayor of Jerusalem. 1.48 "Light & Bright." 3.15 Kabbalat Shabbat. 3.45 "Youth Corner." 4.15 Chess Corner 4.35 Classical Requests. Schumann: Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 54 (Soloist: Moura Lympany); Franck: Symphony in D Minor (conductor: Pierre Monteux). 6.45 Bible Reading. 7.15 Shabbat Shalom. 8.00 "Hobby Making." 8.15 Soloist of the Week: Nathan Milstein. 9.45 Reading by Yehoshua Bertonov. 9.15 Friday Night Concert: Ravel: Introduction and Allegro, played by Fela Berghaut — Harp and the Chamber Music Society of Amsterdam; Mendelssohn Octet in E Flat Major, op. 20, played by the Pro Musica Chamber Group; Brahms' Clarinet Quintet in B Minor, op. 115, played by Alfred Gendelson and the Bluyssmit String Quartet. 10.30 Story of the week. 10.45 Folk Dances. 11.15 Chamber Music: Beethoven: Sonata No.9 in A Major for Violin & Piano, op.47 ("Kreutzer"), played by Adolf Busch and Rudolf Serkin. 11.45 Light Music. 12.10 Close Down.

TOMORROW

7.00 a.m. Service and Melodies. 8.40 Songs (R). 9.00 Morning Concert: Rameau: Concerto Grosso op. 3 No. 4 in D Major (conductor: Pierre Colombo); Handel: "Te Deum." 9.40 "Musical Quiz." 10.15 Literature Corner. 10.45 Concert Hall: Works by Beethoven: 1) Overture "Fidelio" (conductor: Bruno Walter); 2) Piano Concerto No. 5 in E Flat Major, op. 37 ("Emperor"); (Soloist: Arthur Schnabel). 11.30 Curtain Up: a play by Zeev Ben-Haim. 12.25 Interlude. 12.30 Bagpipes (R). 1.00 Stage and Screen. 2.45 Cantoral Recordings. 3.15 Variety (R). 3.45 Literary Readings. 4.00 Opera. Moussorgsky: "Boris Godounov" — 3rd selection. 5.15 Light Music. 5.25 Science Study. 6.45 Bible Reading. 7.15 "Guests in the Studio." 7.30 "Hamaccabi" and "Melave Malka." 8.00 "Art and Culture." 8.30 Interlude. 8.50 Questions & Answers, by Shmuel Noam. 9.10 Sport News. 9.15 Newsreel. 9.50 Broadcast by Yoram Rosen & Alon Schmuckler. 10.00 Heine Programme. 10.45 Dance Music. 12.10 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME
822, 249, 33.3 & 43.9 M.

12.00 N. "Music at Noon" Nat King Cole. (R). 12.30 Concert Hall: Haydn: Symphony No. 101 in D ("The Clock"). Kabalevsky: Violin Concerto. Carelltiser: Little Israel Suite. 1.45 Light Notes (R). 3.30 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME
497, 468, 238, 216, 43.9 & 33.3 M.
IMMIGRANTS' HOUR (33.3, 34.9 & 468 M.): Today: 5.30-5.45 Yiddish-Hebrew Lesson. 6.00 Light Music. 6.30 French. 7.00 Yiddish. 7.30 Ladino. 8.00 Ligh Music. 8.15 News in Easy Hebrew. 8.30 Rumanian. 8.45 Hungarian. 9.00 Close Down. **Tomorrow:** 5.30 Spanish Songs. 5.45 Latino-Hebrew Lesson. 6.00 Light Music. 6.30 French. 7.00 Yiddish. 7.30 Ladino. 8.00 Light Music (R). 8.15 News in Easy Hebrew. 8.30 Rumanian. 8.45 Hungarian. 9.00 Close Down.

KOL ZION LAGOLA (33.3 M.): Today: 6.30 News. 6.35 The Week in the Knesset. 6.50 Readings for Shabbat Trumah: Talk by Uri Ephrat. 7.00 Hebrew Programme: From Week to Week. **Tomorrow:** 6.30 News. 6.35 "South Africans at the Tel Hashomer Hospital. 6.50 Melave Malka — Mordechai Hershmann. 7.00 Yiddish Programme. **Today:** 11.30 Readings for Shabbat Trumah: Talk by Uri Ephrat. 11.35 "Music in our Land" — a musical review. 11.45 On Behalf of Israel. **Tomorrow:** 11.15 Shavua Tov. News Programme. Highlights. 11.25 "This Also Happened." 11.30 This Week in the Knesset. 11.45 Melave Malka — Mordechai Hershmann.

ARMY PROGRAMME (44.6, 216, 238 & 250 M.): 6.30 Opening. 6.35 Opera Excerpts. 7.00 News. 7.10 Musical Pieces. 7.20 This Week's Events. 7.40 Saturday Night Concert. Works by Turina: "Procesion del Rocio"; Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5, op. 100. 8.30 Shabbat Party. 9.00 News. 9.15 "Gala Zahal's Weekly." 10.00 Dance Music. 11.00 Close Down. **Tomorrow:** 6.30 p.m. Opening. 6.35 "The Night Following Shabbat." 7.00 News. 7.10 "Pleasant Tune"—Works by George Gershwin. 7.30 "In Bygone Days." 7.45 "Behind the Curtain" & On the Stage — Variety. 8.30 Songs. 9.00 News. 9.15 Dance Music 10.30 Close Down.

B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCAST: (16.79, 19.42, 16.96, 28.15 M.): 7.30-8.00 p.m. **Today:** News, News Talk, British Album. **Tomorrow:** News, News Talk, Press Review.



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Kfar Batya—Children's Village

By Ruth Fleishman

TO the casual visitor, Kfar Batya, just off the road from Raanana, makes the impression of the ideal children's village. With its cleanliness, garden and large green lawns and flower beds, swings and sports grounds, it may proudly compete with any other children's village. The red-roofed houses, red-tiled dining and club rooms with polished wooden tables and chairs, cheerful curtains and tablecloths, flower vases, exude a rustic atmosphere that is soothingly pleasant. Only the synagogue, with its round dome, reminds the visitor that he is in Israel and not high up in a mountain village in Switzerland. Like the rest of the buildings, it is simple and beautiful in design. The manifold small windows let in light and sun, and twittering birds fly freely over the heads of the young worshippers, adding their songs to the children's prayers.

Established in 1948, by the Mizrahi Women of America, Kfar Batya now houses 300 children, aged 13 to 18, from 29 different countries. Ninety per cent are Youth Aliya children; the rest are sent either privately or by the Ministry of Social Welfare. About 30 are orphans, many have lost one parent. Some have parents behind the iron curtain, and hope that one day they will join them in Israel. Some have parents in Israel, and financial difficulties, family troubles or bad housing conditions have brought them over here. Once in two or three weeks they visit their parents or relatives but they like coming back to school.

There is an elementary and a secondary school at Kfar Batya, and pupils can matriculate. Those who prefer to learn a trade may do so. There is a mechanics workshop, a carpentry and weaving department and a cobblery workshop. Each course takes two to three years, ending with an examination held by the Ministry of Labour.

Stress on Agriculture

Those who want to become farmers work their day in the village farm: the stress at Kfar Batya is on agriculture, and each student, whether he studies in the secondary school or works in one of the workshops, has to do a three-hour daily stint on the farm.

The farm is quite an extensive one. Their gladiolas were awarded a prize last year for outstanding beauty. The produce goes straight to the village's kitchen and the excess is sold to the Farmers' Cooperative nearby.

The children are proud of their farm, and the little boys with their big boots, who showed me around on Saturday last, told me with the exactitude of a mathematics teacher the history of each cow, her name and age and how many litres of milk she gives daily. They made me stop before an imposing black bull, who, they claimed, is no ordinary bull but the grandson of an American prize-winning cow.



Learning to be first class shoemakers in the beautifully equipped workshop at Kfar Batya.
Jewish Agency Photo Service

The working days of these 300 boys and girls are filled to capacity. They get up at 5.30, have to be ready for morning gymnastics at 6.40. The boys proceed to the synagogue for morning prayers while the girls get away with a shortened prayer on the premises. They set the tables ready for breakfast, and when the boys come back, they eat together. Beds are then made, and rooms cleaned. Study or work starts at 8.25 and lasts till 11.30. Both in the schools and in the workshops the two shift-system is used. Lunch is followed by afternoon prayers at the synagogue and then work or study again until 5.00. Supper is served at 5.45 and the evening prayer is said at 6.20. This schedule is adhered to with punctuality.

Discipline Strict

Discipline at Kfar Batya is firm on the whole. Loud or excessive talking is forbidden in the dining room and extra kitchen duty may be the punishment for it.

If the teachers and instructors of Kfar Batya really succeed in giving these children the warmth and understanding every individual child needs, then the place is much more than a model children's village. The children take an unusual share in the running of this village. They elect a council of nine every three months. It is responsible for the cleanliness of the rooms and house, supervises and plans the cultural activities in the evenings, organizes sports competitions with nearby villages (reserved for weekday afternoons, since this is a religious village) and when a boy is Bar Mitzvah, it is responsible for the festive arrangements. The children have their own "Minister of Finance," for each child receives 500 pruta monthly, out of which he must pay for copybooks, pencils and breakages.

About a year ago there was great excitement at Kfar Batya. Twelve Falasha boys and girls from Ethiopia had arrived. These tall, thin children, with their black eyes, curly hair and dark skin, have endeared themselves to the pupils and teachers of the village alike. Their straightforward and uncomplicated natures make them good comrades; their immense desire to learn and absorb western culture make them good pupils.

Henrietta Szold

ON Monday last, on the 11th anniversary of Henrietta Szold's death, the Home for Neglected Girls at Bin Vered was renamed in honour of the Zionist leader.

To-date, 500 girls who might otherwise have been irretrievably lost to society have passed through the home, and the results have been crowned with a satisfying measure of success. Some 92 former inmates are now happily married in well-ordered homes, others are serving in the Israel Army, others have been absorbed in productive and remunerative employment.

It is curious that the formal renaming of the home for Henrietta Szold should also have coincided with the 25th anniversary of her taking over responsibility on behalf of the Jewish community for special social work among juvenile offenders. In July of that year she wrote; "My chief occupation at the moment is dealing with the juvenile offender. He is so much less an offender than the people who want to reform him. They talk from start to finish in terms of reformatory institutions, when all that the little wretches need is larger opportunity for recreation and for education of the hand."

In 1943, two years before she died, she founded the home for wayward girls which has since done so much to bring to fruition her ideas for dealing with the young offender. A. S.

Diary of a Housewife

By Hadassah Bat Haim

"SHOW me your books and I will tell you who your friends are." This is a completely misleading statement like so many others that guided my childhood. Perhaps it means to judge by the borrowed books that lie on the shelves, but even this I am inclined to deny. Haven't got a friend in the world who is likely to have lent me "Colliery Management" but there it stands next to "Tap Dancing in Ten Easy Lessons" which I have also not the slightest recollection of ever acquiring. I must at one time have had a number of friends among the intelligentsia. From where otherwise would I have got the copies of Balzac, Proust, Carlyle and James Joyce? Have never actually read any of these but they make a good impression on strangers.

AM quite enchanted by a mental picture of myself, looking up gravely from a copy of, say, Bacon's Essays to unravel some knotty literary problem. However at my present stage of intellectual development the book is more apt to be something like "The Strewn Corpses" and the question "What time is dinner?" or "How many times does 124 go into 468?" Head of the House says he supposes that all my friends must be either thieves and murderers or members of the police force, and if I like crimes why don't I read some factual reports of trials at law procedure? I say I am against violence and only like fictional corpses. I must be sure that the criminal will get his just deserts otherwise it would make me unhappy. Real life not being as well ordered as fiction, it is frequently less satisfactory.

MY copy of "Cranford" has disappeared from the house, which shows I have an acquaintance at least with similar literary tastes but dishonest habits. I was in the habit of reading it when all else failed me, so now I have to fall back on Jane Austen. Of course there are some fascinating books which would probably afford me many delightful hours if I could only get into them. "Die Design and Die Casting" for instance, or "Calculus Made Easy" (but never easy enough for me).

HEAD of the House says my reading habits are deplorable. He begs me to look at the way I read the paper for example. Who ever heard of reading the articles before the news, and frequently not reading the news at all? Why do I think they are called newspapers if not to convey the intelligence of the day which it is vital for every person to know? The articles are only for persons like me who have to be bribed to use our brains. I say well, as the articles are very kindly provided by the management it would be rude of me not to make use of them and anyway I presume he will tell me what news it is necessary for me to know and I will tell him which articles are interesting.

HE says it's a pity as I read so much not to use the effort to educate myself. Why not read some history he suggests, or economics, or even a cookery book?

I LOOK at the book in his hand. It is called "The Tenth Murderer."

The Weaker Sex Slim

By Paul Kohn

THOSE who have not yet bought a dunam on the moon, or booked a Lilienblum Street ticket for a place in Israel's first space ship, can console themselves at the price at a 60-pruta bus ticket to Dizengoff Square, in the heart of Tel Aviv, a city always eager to join the world's latest crazes.

Diana, according to Roman legend, was the Goddess of the Moon. At the four-month-old institute by that name (startingly flashed across the night sky in neon lights) the visitor might almost take off for the moon at any minute, by the look of some of the machines. They have a hypreca tor, a kosmoton, a tracsator, ultra violet and infra red rays, suction, compression, and gas bowl instruments, a savage health motor, and worst of all, a "beauty drum." That and much more, to slim and beautify the 1956 lady for outer space — or Tel Aviv.

This is a shrine for women, just like Diana's original temple. Between 80 and 90 visit the institute every day: plump ones, thin ones, medium ones, very fat and very thin ones. Keenest on slimming, according to Mr. Ernest Kraus, the manager, are women aged between 40 and 50, though some start at 16 and some are oldish.



Mr. Kraus, who has had experience with the profession in Budapest, Vienna, New York, London and Paris, opines that American women are the most curvaceous and beautiful. Next come the *Sabras*. They imitate the Americans. However, he regretted that so many girls here do nothing at all to look after their figures, or after their skin, easily "ruined" by the climate and life in the open air, which dries the skin and causes premature wrinkles.

Treatment at the Diana starts with an examination by a physiotherapist, who estimates how much the client can reduce in a series of 15 to 20 visits. A woman can reduce up to six kilos, but some "won't lose an ounce in 115 treatments." They visit the institute, lose half a kilo, go home, fill up on bread and soup, and have immediately put on a kilo. "To slim, a woman must learn to eat greenstuffs instead," Mr. Kraus said.

New Waist Lines

Massage is the answer to a woman who wants a new waist or hip line. The savage health motor, viciously towelling the midrib bulges, is very good for that. The Kosmoton, with its belts and tubes, provides pneumatic massage. But best of all, they say, is the three-ton "beauty drum," the only one in Israel, and reportedly the same as that installed in Buckingham Palace. In this the lady is stretched full length in a foam rubber barrel that reminds one of Japanese torture. The electricity is turned on, and one might think the woman inside is a human satellite about to be launched into space. But no, the drum rotates, the lady rolls in the barrel to slim and round out her figure as ultra violet rays shine upon her. At the start the client may consider two minutes enough, but those who are really determined to reduce, do not mind rolling for ten minutes, the drum's operator says.

Next door, two-month-old Venus, the Goddess of Love, provides softer treatment: the Relax Acizor, which massages you with the aid of electric buttons and pads working on the flesh at various pressures. It is said to tighten the muscles, more essential to slimming than is reducing, according to Mrs. Rafael Halperin, manager and wife of the world champion wrestler (she is the slim mother of five children).

There too, there is no lack of customers from eight in the morning till nine at night. Particularly now that the Venus Institute has opened its parlours to men, 30 of whom, aged from 18 to 60, are already receiving treatment. Many of the clients, particularly the girls, are soldiers.



Drawn by FROMENTI

Paris hats for the new season are slightly oriental in influence. Svend's draped turban, based on a knotted felt band, and Paulette's successful pointed cap in three encrusted shades of straw, illustrate this trend. The third is the hat seen everywhere, worn forward overshadowing the eyes.

BRIDGE

By JERUSALEMITE

AN UNUSUAL LEAD

	S. A K 8 H. 8 5 D. A 9 4 C. A K 10 6 5	
S. Q 8 7 5 H. J 4 3 D. K Q J 5 C. 9 7	W E S	S. 6 4 H. K 10 9 7 2 D. 8 7 6 3 C. Q 4
	S. J 10 9 2 H. A Q 6 D. 10 2 C. J 8 3 2	

READERS may well recognise the above: it was dealt in one of the early rounds of the Tel Aviv Pairs Championship.

There were some who wound up in five clubs; others preferred to contract for three no-trumps. Your correspondent stumbled into four spades — which contract, incidentally, should produce the couple of extra points so badly needed in every pairs tournament — but he scored a resounding zero for having failed to produce the goods.

The king of diamonds was played and allowed to hold. East signalling low; South won the queen with dummy's ace and went into a huddle. Arguing that the rather barren distribution of the visible hands was heralding an even split in clubs, he called for the ace and king of clubs. Both opponents followed suit, as expected.

And now we come to the crossroads, with a variety of possible continuations:

1. South can take two rounds of trumps and try the heart finesse. If successful, he needs only to ruff the third heart and to run his winners, letting the defence make their two trumps separately. Should the heart finesse lose, West will obviously press him with another diamond; here it will still be possible to make the game if the last two missing trumps split and if the defendant holding the queen of trumps has no more diamonds to play.
2. South may play three rounds of trumps outright. If the adverse trumps split, he is home; if they don't he will have to ruff the diamond return and run his clubs, praying to find the opponent with the last trump bailed out of diamonds.

Both these plays have their weakness. The first forgoes the possibility of a 4-0 trump split coupled with a 3-3 diamond break; the second makes no use of an eventually winning heart finesse.

There is, however, a third line of approach, which incorporates all the distributional possibilities and, what's more, has the advantage of a psychological trap: South underleads dummy's ace-king of trumps! The following may now happen:

a. West wins and plays the diamond jack, and South discards a heart. Neither can next step declarer from taking the rest.

b. East makes the trade queen and pushes another diamond (the bait!). The game continues as above.

c. East makes the queen and switches to hearts—the only lead likely to annoy declarer. South will now risk the finesse: if best, he can still make the game given an even trump split.

It will thus be seen that the lead of a low trump wins if the queen of spades is outside (no need to take the finesse!), or if the king of hearts is right, or if trumps break well. The mathematical odds for at least one of these three conditions are approximately eight to one. And let us not forget the fine psychological point!

Green Season in the Kitchen

By Molly Lyons Bar-David

THIS is the month of the wonderful greens; not only do the fields abound with tasty wild plants which rescued us way back in '48 and which we can enjoy with relish even today, but the gardens are profuse with Swiss chard, leafy and emerald, spinach to please any Popeye, full crisp lettuces, cabbages that are at their peak, and the fresh green tops of kohlrabi, turnips and beetroot for the best of borsht (their roots too, of course, are fine food, but their season of greens should not be missed). The trouble with these wonderful greens is that most housewives cook them to death and so most children grow up with an aversion to these dishes.

Swiss chard (the big leafy, fleshy vegetable often wrongly referred to as spinach) and proper spinach particularly require the right kind of cooking. The leaves should be thoroughly washed and cooked *without* water. Choose a heavy pot, and rub the inside of it with margarine. Put in the thoroughly washed greens and put on a gentle heat with the lid on. The spinach will wilt and settle in a mass. Then remove the lid, increase the heat and let the vegetable cook rapidly in its own juice until tender. The whole process from beginning to end takes about 10 minutes. Drain, but do not squeeze. Season and prepare for serving. Other greens are cooked with a very little water but the same principle applies, of not overcooking.

How to Serve Greens

You can serve the spinach or Swiss chard in the leafy form above or as puree. It needs to have its goodness called out with pleasant seasoning such as a dash of nutmeg or grating of ginger, along with salt and pepper and butter or margarine. For variety I sometimes add chopped parsley. Or you may like lemon with a hint of sugar and perhaps a sprinkling of ginger. Some folks like finely chopped chives or onion tops in greens. Here you have scope for experimentation, for greens can be as varied as the moods of a housekeeper.

Serve spinach with a thick white sauce, either in leaf form or pureed. It is delicious baked with *polenta* (coarse corn meal): a layer of spinach, a layer of *polenta*, and grated yellow cheese on top. It is very tasty chopped with hard boiled eggs and onion, and served hot. Serve poached eggs on a bed of spinach. Or add a cheese sauce and mushrooms and put under the grill for a minute. Or make spinach pancakes — or pancakes out of Swiss chard. Just chop the raw greens. Add salt and pepper to taste. Dust with flour to absorb all the moisture. Add egg — just enough to make a batter, and fry in hot fat and serve at once.

Spinach Souffle

Melt three tablespoonfuls of butter in upper part of double boiler. Blend in three tablespoonfuls of flour, stirring constantly. Add, still stirring, one cup of milk and stir until mixture thickens. Season with half a teaspoonful of salt. When mixture has cooled slightly, add beaten yolks of four eggs and blend well. Fold in one cup chopped, cooked spinach; then gently fold in the beaten whites of the eggs. Place in a baking dish and bake in a moderate oven (or wonder pot) for about 40 minutes or until souffle is lightly browned and well puffed and serve at once.

Scalloped Cabbage with Cheese

1 small head cabbage, 2 cups grated yellow cheese, 1½ cups medium white sauce, ½ cup bread crumbs.

Cook cabbage until just tender, adding salt to the water just before the cabbage is done. Do not overcook. Into a greased baking dish put a layer of cabbage, then a layer of grated yellow cheese, then a layer of white sauce, and continue to add layers until all the ingredients are used. Cover the top of the mixture with the crumbs, which may be mixed with a little melted butter, and bake in a moderate oven until the crumbs are brown (about 20 minutes). This can of course also be made in a wonder pot.

Cabbage with Sausage

Line a casserole with paper-thin slices of sausage. Place quartered (from a small head) raw cabbage over this, add 1 small onion chopped, salt and butter to taste. Add half a cup of bullion (this may be 1 tsp. soup seasoning and water or a bullion cube with water). Top with more slices of sausage. Cover and cook until cabbage is tender — about 45 minutes. Makes a wonderful cold-weather dish along with fried potatoes.

Beet Greens

Cook beet greens with very little boiling water until just tender. Salt the water just before the cooking is completed. Drain in a colander. Chop if desired. Serve hot with vinegar or with butter, salt and pepper. And if you fancy it, with a sprinkling of grated yellow cheese on top.

Creamed Greens

1 kilo greens, any kind, 4 tbsps. butter, 2 hard-cooked egg yolks, salt and pepper, 3 tbsps. sweet cream.

Cook greens as directed, drain well and chop fine. Return to fire, add butter, salt and pepper, and stir until the butter is melted, then add cream and chopped yolks and mix well and serve hot.



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MONDAY: Vita Mushroom Soup. Fish Fillet Croquette. Beet Root Salad. Vita Vanilla Ice Cream Mix with Hot Chocolate Sauce.
TUESDAY: Vita "Boston" with Soup Almonds. Grilled Liver. Chips. Orange Salad with Vita Arancini.
WEDNESDAY: Cauliflower Soup. Vegetable Souffé with Mayonnaise. Pancakes and Vita Fruit Soup.
THURSDAY: Vita Pea Soup. Baked Fish Balls. Vegetable Salad. Vita Melon Compote.
FRIDAY: Vegetable and Barley Soup. Mock Mushroom Soup (Egg Plant stewed in Vita Mushroom Soup). Potato Patties. Lemon Pudding with Vita Arancini.
SATURDAY: Jellied Calf leg. Vita Boston Chicken Soup. Roast Goose and Red Savoy Cabbage. Shortcake with Vita Strawberry Confiture.

Bon Appétit! Vita

Buyers' Guide

Trade Names That Mean Quality

What's a "Primus"?

WHO in Israel does not know what "Primus" means? But it's a safe bet that not one in thousand knows that "PRIMUS" is a trade-name for a specific product. Today you call any little kerosene pressure-heater with the well known form a "primus". The same thing happened to "AMA", the first synthetic cleaning liquid in the country. Today "AMA" has become the accepted all-round term for "detergent", a new word in the dictionary, as it were.
But when you buy a detergent see to it that you are given the real "AMA", Shemen's famous product. Now you can prepare your own "AMA" with the aid of "AMA -REFILLS". Put one Refill stick into a bottle of water (warm water is preferable) and in no time your "AMA" will be ready for use.
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★

Original Costume Jewellery Now in Haifa Too . . .

A VERY special shop for fashion jewellery will be opened on February 21, by Mrs. Martha Heksch at 17 Rehov Nordau, Haifa. This shop will sell the complete range of exclusives of well-known "BIJOU" of Tel Aviv. Fashionable Haifaites who used to travel to Tel Aviv to get their costume jewellery from "Bijou" of 48 Rehov Ben Yehuda, will now find the same, rich selection of brooches, clips, earrings and necklaces. They will have the same expert advice, which has established the reputation of "Bijou" Tel Aviv, in Haifa at Mrs. Heksch' newly opened shop at 17 Rehov Nordau.



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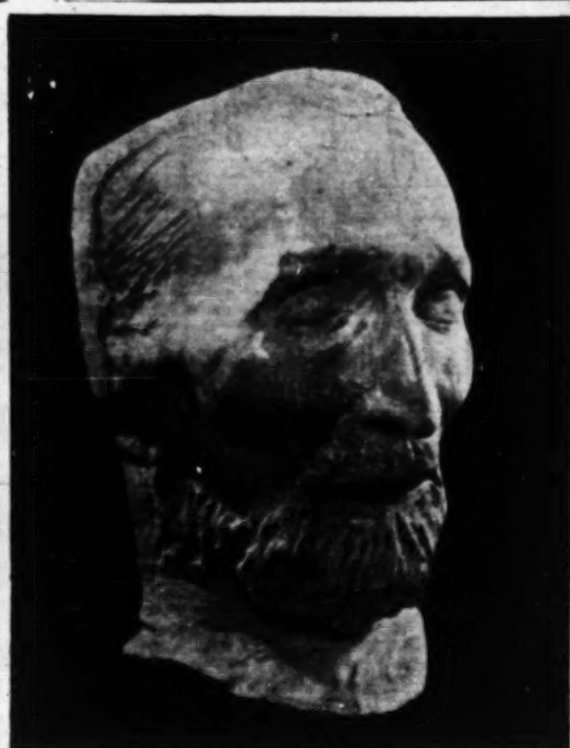
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CENTENARY OF HEINE'S DEATH

I know not if I deserve that a laurel-wreath should one day be laid on my coffin. Poetry, dearly as I have loved it, has always been to me but a divine plaything. I have never attached any great value to poetical fame; and I trouble myself very little whether people praise my verses or blame them. But lay on my coffin a sword; for I was a brave soldier in the war of liberation of humanity. (Heine)

Posterity will certainly decorate his tomb with the emblem of the laurel rather than with the emblem of the sword. Still, for his contemporaries, for us, for the Europe of the present century, he is significant chiefly for the reason which he himself assigns. He is significant because he was, if not pre-eminently a brave, yet a brilliant, a most effective soldier in the war of liberation of humanity. (Matthew Arnold)



DEATH MASK
This death mask was taken by the sculptor Joseph Fontana. One of the two original masks was acquired by Mr. Salman Schocken from the widow of Prof. E. Elster, editor of Heine's works; the second is in a private collection in America. Mr. Schocken had five copies made, one of which he gave to Mr. Kurt Blumenfeld, Jerusalem, on his 60th birthday. It is here reproduced by Mr. Blumenfeld's courtesy, from a photograph by Werner Braun.

Life and Work

1797 — December 13 (date uncertain) born at Dusseldorf.
1813 — Writes his first poems.
1814 — Leaves school before matriculation.
1815/1819 — Unsuccessful apprenticeship in business.
1819 — Studies law at Bonn University. Meets Wilhelm Schlegel and Karl Simrock. Enters the illegal "Burschenschaft." Translates Byron, writes ballads and songs.
1820 — Continues studies at Göttingen.
1821 — Expelled from university for a duel challenge. Goes to Berlin, studies with Hegel and Bopp (Sanskrit scholar); joins "Verein fur Kultur and Wissenschaft der Juden," assisting Leopold Zunz, Eduard Ganz (later converted) and Moses Moser. Meets Rahel Varnhagen and her circle of scholars, writers and artists.
1822 — First volume of poems. Beginning of "Rabbi von Bacharach."
1823 — "Tragödien" and "Lyrisches Intermezzo."
1824 — Returns to Göttingen. Travels in North Germany. Visits Goethe in Weimar, "Harzreise."
1825 — Graduation and doctor of laws degree. Holiday at Norderney. The "Nordsee" cycle. — Baptized.
1826-31 — Two years in Italy. "Reisebilder."
1827 — England, "Englische Fragmente." "Buch der Lieder."
1831 — Leaves Germany; after brief stay in Frankfurt arrives in Paris. Meets Balzac and George Sand, Dumas, Gautier, de Nerval, Chopin and Meyerbeer, the historians Guizot, Mignet and Thiers, the Rothschilds, the Saint-Simonians.
1832 — "Epistel an Deutschland."
1833 — "Französische Zustände."—"Die Romantische Schule."
1834 — Union with Crescentia Mirat ("Mathilde").
1834/40 — "Der Salon" (The four volumes include "Die Memoiren des Herrn von Schnabelewopski," "Florentinische Nächte"; etc.)
1835 — "Zur Geschichte der Religion und Philosphie in Deutschland."—German ban on his writings.
1839 — "Shakespeares Mädchen und Frauen."
1840 — "Heine über Ludwig Börne."
1841 — Marries Mathilde.
1844 — "Neue Gedichte" (Deutschland, Ein Wintermärchen").
1843 — Visit to his mother in Hamburg. Death of Salomon Heine, his uncle and lifelong benefactor.
1847 — "Atta Troll."
1848 — Paralysis sets in: The "Mattress Grave."
1851 — "Romanzero." "Der Doctor Faust."
1853/54 — "Neueste Gedichte" (with the poems to "La Mouche," — Elise von Krienitz, devoted friend of last years).
1854 — "Geständnisse."
1856 — February 17, died in Paris.

The Grave on Montmartre

By JOSEPH FRAENKEL

Almost everyone visiting the cemetery of Montmartre looks for Heine's last resting place. On the tombstone, a harp entwined with a garland of flowers, and underneath the names: Heinrich Heine — Frau Heine. A marble slab, festooned with flowers, is inscribed: To the memory of Heine: — Liberal Vienna."

One of his poems, in German, is engraved on its base; the letters now almost effaced. An English translation by Ruth Daffin, reads:

Where shall I, of wandering weary,
Find my resting-place at last?
Under drooping southern palmtrees?
Under limes the Rhine sweeps past?
Will it be in deserts lonely,
Dug by unfamiliar hands?
Shall I slumber where the ocean
Crawls along the yellow sands?
It matters not! Around me ever
There as here God's heaven lies,
And by night, as death-lamps o'er me,
Lo, His stars sweep through the skies.

Above the tombstone is a marble bust of the poet, by the Danish sculptor Hasselriis. This bust has a story:

A. L. Hasselriis, an unknown poor artist, was living in Rome. Seeking comfort in Heine's "Book of Songs," he found in it inspiration for a statue. He sent it to the Vienna World Exhibition, but though it won him a medal, it remained unsold. So the statue went back to Rome, where it stood in the artist's studio for almost twenty years. Meanwhile, a heated controversy had flared up in Germany about erecting a monument to the poet in Dusseldorf, his birthplace. The proposal was turned down and the monument, a masterpiece by the sculptor Ernst Herter, was shipped to America and set up in New York.



While this controversy continued in Germany, Empress Elizabeth of Austria said: "The monument to a poet should be the expression of his country's love." The people of Germany having failed, the ill-fated Empress, enthusiastic admirer of Heinrich Heine, acquired the Hasselriis statue for her castle, the "Achilleion" in Corfu. Besides this, she commissioned the Danish artist to design a memorial for Heine's grave.

Nothing on Heine's grave indicates his religion. He had himself expressed the wish that no ritual should be observed at his funeral.

No Mass was chanted, no *kaddish* was recited when he was laid to rest, one hundred years ago. But posterity has belied Heine's sad forebodings: Almost daily pilgrims visit his grave.

A Poem from 'Buch der Lieder'

(Original, four translations, and music)

Auf Flügeln des Gesanges,
Herzliebchen, trag ich dich fort,
Fort nach den Fluren des Ganges,
Dort weiss ich den schönsten Ort.

Dort liegt ein rothblühender Garten
Im stillen Mondenschein;
Die Lotosblumen erwarten
Ihr trautes Schwesterlein.

Die Veilchen kichern und kosen,
Und schaun nach den Sternen empor;
Heimlich erzählen die Rosen
Sich duftende Märchen ins Ohr.

Es hüpfen herbei and lauschen
Die frommen, klugen Gazell'n;
Und in der Ferne rauschen
Des heiligen Stromes Well'n.

Dort wollen wir niedersinken
Unter dem Palmenbaum,
Und Liebe und Ruhe trinken,
Und träumen seligen Traum.

על כנפי־סנגינה מנגנות
אנשאך, חמדתי, בעוף,
אשאך אל שדמות הגנגס,
שם תרתי לי מקום טוב.
על־פני גן פורח מסבים
אורות הסהר שם דם;
פרחי־הלוטוס מחכים
לאחותם הצנועה יום־יום.
צוחקים בחן הסגלים,
כל־אחד לכוכבו הקט;
שושנים מספרות בצללים
אגדה ריחנית בלט.
מדלגים הצבאים הקלים,
מופיעים וחולפים סיד;
הומים מרחוק הגלים,
גלי קדוש נהרות־פר.
בפנה נסתרה וברוכה
שם נכרע בצל תמר־עץ.
ונשת ממקור אהבה ומנוחה
וחלום־אשר נחלם. אין־קץ.

Translation by Yitzhak Katzenelson From "Heinrich Heine, Sefer Hashirim" (Sztybel, Warsaw, 1924) Ashkenazic Pronunciation.

עלי כנפי רננים,
חמדת לבי, אשאך,
אל חוף הגנגס נשגבים,
פנת השקט שם אראך.
שם גן ארגמן פורח
בנגה סהר זך:
ציץ לוטוס נוטף ריח
לאחותו ישתח.
קורצות סגלות מתעלסות,
צופות אל כוכבי האור:
הורדים בסודי סודות
דובבים אגדות של מור
דולגות וחומקות בלי שאון
עפרות תמימות, משות ראש;
מרחוק נשמע קול המון
גלי הנהר הקדוש.
שם בצלו של עץ תמר,
ננום ונננה:
חלום של אשר באין אמר
ושלות דודים נרוה.

Translation by Gila Uriel From "Mivhar Shirei Heine," (Yavneh, Tel Aviv, 1954) Sefardic Pronunciation

Sur les ailes de mon chant,
Mignonne, je veux t'emporter,
Jusqu'aux lointains rives du Gange;
Je sais là un endroit merveilleux.

Un jardin plein de fleurs vermeilles
S'étale dans le silence du clair de lune;
Les fleurs du lotus attendent
Leur charmante petite soeur.

Les violettes rient et jasent
En regardant les etoiles.
Tout bas, les roses se confient
Des contes embaumés.

Furtivement, l'oreille au guet,
Accourent les douces, les sages gazelles.
A l'horizon le fleuve sacré,
Roule ses flots sonores.

C'est là que nous allons nous étendre,
A l'ombre des palmiers,
Et boire l'ivresse et le repos,
Et faire des rêves de bonheur.

From "Heine, Livre des Chants." Editions Montaigne, Paris, 1947.

MUSIC BY FELIX MELDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY (Without the Piano Part)



On wings of song, heart's dearest,
I'll bear thee, soft and light,
To a grove I know, the fairest
By Ganges' waters bright.

In a rose-red garden burning
'Neath the silent moonbeams there
The lotus-flowers are yearning
To greet their sister fair.

Violets, laughing and lisping,
Look up to the stars above;
Softly the roses, whispering
Tell perfumed legends of love.

There leap the gazelles, and listen,
Innocent-eyed and grave,
And Ganges' waters glisten,
And ripples his sacred wave.

There will we lie together
Under the tall palm's crest,
And drink of love, and rest there,
And dream the dreams of the blest.

From "Prose & Poetry by Heinrich Heine" (Everyman's Library)

Farewell to Venus

(The last time he went out of doors, in May 1848):

With difficulty I dragged myself to the Louvre, and I almost sank down as I entered the magnificent hall where the ever-blessed goddess of beauty, our beloved Lady of Milo, stands on her pedestal. At her feet I lay long, and wept so bitterly that a stone must have pitied me. The goddess looked compassionately on me, but at the same time disconsolately, as if she would say: Dost thou not see, then, that I have no arms, and thus cannot help thee?



IN THE PRIME OF LIFE
Portrait by Moritz Oppenheim (1800-1882), painted in Frankfurt a. Main in May, 1831. Original in the Kunsthalle, Hamburg.

Wit and Wisdom

Around my cradle played the last moonbeams of the eighteenth and the first dawn of the nineteenth centuries.

* * *

Notwithstanding the war of extermination that I had waged against Romanticism, I always remained a Romanticist at heart, and that in a higher degree than I myself realized. After I had delivered the most deadly blows against the taste for Romantic poetry in Germany, there stole over me an inexpressible yearning for the blue flower in the fairland of Romanticism, and I grasped the magic lyre and sang a song wherein I gave full sway to all the sweet extravagances, to all the intoxication of moonlight, to all the blooming, nightingale-like fancies once so fondly loved. I know it was "the last free-forest song of Romanticism," and I am its last poet. With me the old German lyric school ends; while with me, at the same time, the modern lyric school of Germany begins.

* * *

As for Latin, you have no idea, madam, what a complicated affair it is. The Romans would never have found time to conquer the world if they had first had to learn Latin. Luckily for them, they already knew in their cradles what nouns have their accusative in im... Of Greek I will not say a word; I should get too much irritated. The monks in the middle ages were not so far wrong when they maintained that Greek was an invention of the devil... With Hebrew it went somewhat better, for I had always a great liking for the Jews, though to this very hour they crucify my good name; but I could never get on so far in Hebrew as my watch, which had much familiar intercourse with pawnbrokers, and in this way contracted many Jewish habits — for example, it wouldn't go on Saturdays.

* * *

Judea has always seemed to me like a fragment of the Occident misplaced in the Orient.

* * *

It is curious, the three greatest adversaries of Napoleon have all of them ended miserably. Castlereagh cut his own throat; Louis the Eighteenth rotted upon his throne; and Professor Saalfeld is still a professor at Göttingen.

* * *

Oh, the women! we must forgive them much, for they love much — and many. Their hate is, in fact, only love turned the wrong way... When they write, they have one eye on the paper and the other on a man. This rule applies to all authoresses, with the exception of Countess Hahn-Hahn, who has only one eye.

* * *

When I visited Goethe in Weimar, and stood before him, I involuntarily glanced at his side to see whether the eagle was not there with the lightning in his beak. I was nearly speaking Greek to him; but, as I observed that he understood German, I stated to him, in German, that the plums on the road between Jena and Weimar were very good. I had for so many long winter nights thought over what lofty and profound things I would say to Goethe, if ever I saw him. And when I saw him at last, I said to him that the Saxon plums were very good! And Goethe smiled.

* * *

"X. was praised in French papers for his poem which has been translated. Heine said: As long as he lives, he will be immortal." (Rahel Levin, in a letter to Varnhagen, March 13, 1839).

* * *

I have again read in the Old Testament. What a great book! Even more remarkable than the content is this language, where the word is, as it were, a product of nature, like a tree, like a flower, like the stars, like man himself... Truly this is the word of God, whilst other books are but evidence of human intellect.

* * *

...It is strange! during my whole life I have been strolling through the various festive halls of philosophy, I have participated in all the orgies of the intellect, I have coquetted with every possible system, without being satisfied, like Messalina after a riotous night; and now, after all this, I suddenly find myself on the same platform whereon stands Uncle Tom. That platform is the Bible, and I kneel by the side of my dusky brother in faith with the same devotion.

Reflections on Heinrich Heine

By MAX BROD

HEINE is often popularly termed the German-Jewish Lord Byron. The points in which they differed are too obvious to need emphasizing; what they had in common may still be stressed with advantage.

The fact that both Heine and Byron wrote "Hebrew Melodies" is a purely external common trait. Going deeper, we find that both these two great poets were restless spirits, often torn and disillusioned. They were both violently attacked in their mother countries and both reacted polemically, finding new homes in foreign countries. Curiously both reaped in common a very questionable posthumous fame in their home countries (not only on political and personal grounds, but also on purely aesthetic arguments attacking their diction and their personal "word-music").

Abroad, on the other hand, the reputation of both has steadily increased. For a certain time Lord Byron was considered in Europe to be the greatest representative of English poetry since Shakespeare — an opinion sniffed at by English critics. Heine's reputation is analogous. German criticism, often tainted as it was with an anti-Semitic trend, did nothing to alter the fact that in France Heine was for a long time bracketed with Goethe and E.T.A. Hoffmann as the representatives of German poetry. His reputation abroad has stuck to him more effectively than his German fame.

Hebrew and Yiddish literature likewise shows Heine's influence in many ways. Among the excellent translations which exist in nearly every language, there can now be included the series of classic prose translations into Hebrew by Shmuel Perlman (published by Mosad Bialik) which have just been enriched by the issue of a seventh volume *(Elementargeister)* a timely salute for the Heine centenary.

Foreign Admirers

Just as characteristic of Heine as the appreciation of non-German peoples is the fanatic devotion of individuals of all nations to this poet who has influenced the life of many of them. We have only to recall the noble Empress Elizabeth of Austria, who set up a private monument to Heine at her Villa Achilleion in Corfu.

After the appearance of the first edition of my Heine biography (1934), an English society lady, Mrs. Ada C. Dodgshon, started writing me letters betraying a lifelong glowing enthusiasm for Heine. "I myself am a member of one of the most ancient noble families of Scotland," she writes in one of these letters from Wildermere, Dorman's Park, "and I was just such a baronial young lady, proud of her ancestry as Heine makes fun of." When Germany was under the sway of the Nazis, this brave woman made a journey of several weeks' duration through Germany visiting the graves of Heine's forefathers, including that of Haim Buckeburg in Hanover; she had his father's grave restored in Hamburg, paid her respects to all the monuments which commemorated Heine's life, and brought assistance to many a poor Jew in token of Heine. She bequeathed her valuable collection of Heine manuscripts and portraits to the Heine Archives in Duesseldorf, where they have been housed since the death of the donor.

In all generations there have been individuals of a special mental calibre who have integrated Heine's works into their own lives and stood up for him.

To what can we attribute this peculiar strong attraction which Heine exerts on individuals as on whole nations? "He is of the few who stand up within us when we aspire to a higher conception of ourselves." These words by Hugo von Hofmannsthal about Grillparzer can well be applied to Heine.

Heine portrays with a lightning directness a certain type of mankind engaged in mental strife. This is not seen by the many for whom he still signifies a "provocation." (In this somewhat unpleasant sense he is more modern even today than most poets of the German classic and post-classic periods.) These same people only see the flaws in Heine's picture: they do not realize that these irregularities and contradictions are required to reflect his light a thousand fold.

When we talk of Heine we think in the first place of his wit, his sarcasm, which is often of the highest quality, hitting the reprehensible in the eye (sometimes, it is true, falling wide of the mark, as in the case of Platen). Or we think of his lyrics where sometimes a strain of sentimentality runs through the deep and genuine feeling and magic beauty. Heine the thinker, on the other hand, is too little known. And it is as a thinker, as philosopher and politician that he shows his most characteristic traits — or rather a single passionate trait: that of finding the middle way between opposing forces, of conciliating conflicting notions in a just manner.

This conciliation often takes the form of an honest compromise of the most genuine earnestness, but sometimes it results in vacillations. Heine makes love declarations to the French people; he feels happy in Paris and enjoys the cream of contemporary intellectual society in his contacts with Chopin, Berlioz, the Saint-Simonites, George Sand, Balzac and others. With all the reasons he had for opposing Germany in its reactionary period did he ever become a French national? No! It was in Paris that he was most homesick.

His heart yearned not only for his mother who lived in Hamburg, but also for the German language, German folklore, the German romantic movement and German philosophy. He had arrived in Paris in 1831 with no intention of emigrating. But circumstances forced him that way, in particular the ban on his writings in Prussia and Austria. These were individuals in Germany who had a warm affection for him, but the governments of most of the German states persecuted him and his works.

Heine's effort henceforward was to effect a rapprochement between French and German intellectuals. He heralded Hegel in France and French socialism in Germany. His recognition of the necessity of a lasting peace between Germany and France as a guarantee of peace in Europe and in the world was, as he called it, "my most valuable legacy."

The Jewish Heritage

Just as Heine, the politician, grasped the two opposite poles of the French and German mentality, prophetically warning the French of the German aggressiveness, the eruption of which we have experienced in our lifetime — and just as, while probing the depths and beauties of the German spirit, he also realized to the full the nobility and the genius of the French nation — so also was it his lifelong endeavour to do justice to the opposing German-Jewish forces which strove within him. He considered himself to be a German poet, but again we come across passages of intense Jewish emotion; and in the resounding prose of the "Confessions" he includes the following hymn to Moses:—

> I have never spoken with proper reverence either of the foreman of the works or of the work itself, i.e. the Jews. Here again my Hellenistic nature is to blame, opposed as it is to Jewish asceticism. Meanwhile my predilection for Hellas has waned. I now realize that the Greeks were merely beautiful youths, whereas the Jews were always men, strong unyielding men — not only in ancient days but down to the present day, despite eighteen centuries of persecution and poverty.
>
> I have come to appreciate better their true worth, and were not pride of birth an absurd inconsistency in a champion of the revolution with its democratic principles, the writer of these pages might claim with pride that his ancestors belonged to the noble House of Israel, that he is a descendant of those martyrs who gave the world a God and a moral code, and who have fought and suffered on all the battlefields of the spirit.

Doubtless one could collect an equally imposing number of statements and poetic outputs of Heine in which he appears as the spokesman of the German genius, betraying an intimate insight into its individuality and recreating German folk tales. It is not by chance that his work includes not only the immortal song of the "Lorelei," but a whole series of themes (Tannhauser, the Valkyries, the Flying Dutchman, etc.) which Richard Wagner took over from him.

It is true that Heine renounced Judaism to all intents and purposes, although shortly before he took the step he condemned in sharpest terms the baptism of a friend of his youth. Financial straits moved him to take the step, which he afterwards regretted. He hoped that baptism would, as he writes, prove to be the "entrance ticket to European culture"; as a Jew he had been excluded in the Germany of that time from all the positions to which he aspired.

The attempt of a recent writer (Dr. Friedrich Hirth, who has edited the letters in unexcelled completeness) to present Heine's conversion to Christianity as an outcome of inner conviction, fails completely. It is clear, nevertheless, that at certain periods of his life Catholicism influenced his mind strongly, and that Protestantism appealed to him as a system of faith. But in the "mattress-grave" in which he spent the last martyr years of his life, he made this forcible declaration:—

> I do not deny my Judaism to which I have not returned, not having ever forsaken it.

"Honest Complexity"

His work is full of similar paradoxes and contradictions (for example, his attitude to socialism, or his relation to women). Along one line alone is his progress without deviation, though marked with capricious irony: the way that leads from unbelief to Monotheism. The tracing of this line of development is inexpressibly fascinating; and the diaries of Andre Gide alone present an analogy to Heine's uninhibited frankness in dealing with the highest human conceptions. Like Gide, Heine is of a confessing nature, which is not deterred by the most dangerous and most complicated ideas. It is this "honest complexity" which earns Heine the love of so many people, just as much as the magic music of some of his verses and especially of that prose in which he conjures up the picture of his father, his youth, his first love — "the red hangman's daughter" — prose which belongs to the immortal heritage of mankind.

This "complexity" of Heine's has not been fully appreciated down to the present day. The mistake is always repeated of trying to pin him down to one of his many components — to see in him the radical social blusterer or the constitutional monarchist, the cynical erotic or the faithful husband, or again the dreamer and tender lover.

The attempt is constantly made of pressing him into the Jewish, the German, the Christian, the French, the European, or the Socialist world: he, the many-sided experimenter, the seeker who yearned for religious inspiration, has been pounded into a set mould, whereas his real greatness is in his tentativeness and restlessness, his naive and daring outspokenness and never-contentedness.

He has been distorted and misunderstood — and nevertheless beloved. How this love will grow when it is based on the understanding of his true nature!

Heine Exhibition in Jerusalem

There is much truth in Goethe's saying: "If you wish to understand a poet, you must go to his country." But if you wish to understand the way he worked, you can do no better than look at his original manuscripts.

It will come as a revelation to many visitors to the exhibition at the Schocken Library in Jerusalem to notice how hard Heinrich Heine worked — in common with most of the great poets of all times — before he found the perfect form for a poem. Examining all these many corrections, deletions and additions, one can almost follow the poet's struggle with words and rhymes, from the first inspired line to the accomplished poem one remembers.

It is a truly magnificent collection we owe to Mr. Salman Schocken's generosity and the profound understanding of literary values of which his own Goethe anthology gave convincing evidence many years ago.

Only a part of some 600 "units" Mr. Schocken has collected is displayed in the great hall of the library, but even this well-chosen selection is an almost overwhelming treasure trove. Under Mrs. Miriam Sambursky's careful guidance, one admires the first prints of all of Heine's works, mostly in "mint" condition and in period bindings; such unique specimens as the first and second drafts of "Atta Troll;" no less than 122 manuscript pages of the "Reisebilder;" the manuscript of his introduction to "Die Romantische Schule," the original draft (with characteristic changes) of the famous lines on the new Jewish hospital in Hamburg, or the manuscript of "Das Wahlcomité der Esel," one of the most brilliant satirical poems ever written on politicians.

There are many more fascinating exhibits, to mention only a volume of the "Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung" where Heine's contributions are signed with a small "Magen David," a volume of Peretz Smolenskin's "Hashahar" (Vienna, 1867) with an article on Heine, and Bialik's "Poesien" (Warsaw, 1913), poems in Yiddish, with a translation of "Prinzessin Sabbath." There are also a few samples of Heine's correspondence, including letters to and from Julius Campe, his publisher, and a touching piece of homage from Robert Schumann ("I hope you like my music to your songs").

One of the most moving exhibits is Heine's last will, dated Paris, the 27th September 1846, which begins:

> Although I have been favoured by nature and fortune more than others, although I was lacking neither intelligence nor opportunities to exploit the gifts of my mind, although I was in close friendship with the mightiest and wealthiest of this earth and needed only to stretch out my hands to grasp money and offices, yet I die without fortune or titles, in exile and poor...

One leaves the exhibition grateful for having been allowed glimpses into the workshop of a great and beloved poet, but two lines of Heine's keep on lingering in one's mind. Why, he asks, is the coffin in which he wishes to bury his "old and bitter songs" so heavy? His answer is:

I've laid therein my sorrow,
I've laid therein my love.

E. M.

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Labour's Role in the Israel Economy

A UNIQUE ORGANIZATION IN THE FREE WORLD

By Mordechai Namir M.K.
Secretary General of the Histadrut

OPPONENTS of the Histadrut seek to distort its character because it has succeeded in creating a modern social phenomenon in the economic and natural wilderness. They do so by labelling it as a capitalist trust or bolshevist expropriation. Both charges are completely groundless in relation to the public economy of the Histadrut.

There is one particular aspect in which our country is unique not only in the Middle East but in the free democratic world as a whole; and that is the percentage of persons gainfully employed in non-capitalist economic enterprises. More than 25 per cent of the wage earners in Israel make their living within the Histadrut's economic structure, while some 30 per cent are in State, municipal and Zionist-institution employment. Thus 55 per cent of the Jewish workers in Israel earn their living and do their work under conditions in which they are free from any capitalist control.

This however is only one phase of the economic and social phenomenon peculiar to the country: the predominant influence of public bodies in all key positions of Israel's economy.

The land is very largely public property. In fact, Israel is probably the only country in the whole of Asia and Africa where there is no agrarian problem. Furthermore, by far the greater part of the land actually under cultivation is held by the tillers of the soil themselves, in various forms of cooperatives.

Basic Industries

Electricity, the source of power and light, is owned by the State. Almost all the natural resources of the country, in potential or developed forms, are public property. (Take as an instance the Dead Sea Potash with its large-scale chemical offshoots.) The same is true of our transport and communications system. Railways, bus cooperatives, merchant marine, airline, dockyard, are all under public control in varying degree.

Similarly with most of our basic industries. Cement, pipe manufacture, glass making, metal casting, steel rolling, the entire stone industry, the manufacture of arms, food processing industries, oil and other agricultural industries, are all publicly owned.

The water resources and distribution systems belong to the nation, the Histadrut and the local authorities. Elementary and higher education, health services, and state and cooperative housing, are publicly owned. Pure and applied scientific research are largely conducted by and for public bodies.

Above all, and this is the main thing, in this country the public, the community as such, has the pioneer initiative, daring, drive and sense of urgency called for to make the desert retreat by means of farming, manufacture, maritime development, establishment of cities of newcomers, creation of new sources of livelihood and all measures of economic risk where the prospects of immediate or early profit are at best uncertain.

Call for Nationalization

It is interesting, and indeed significant to note that here in Israel the call for "nationalization" has come from an unexpected quarter, namely from the Right. However, two facts must be noted: First, they call for the nationalization not of private property, but of joint labour property only; second, the heresy is indulged in only insofar as its implementation might serve to weaken the Labour Movement of Israel. It seems that not only Socialism but capitalism and the class struggle assume that strikes and lock-outs here are only phases of something larger.

Yet the time has arrived when we of the Histadrut feel it our privilege and duty to call on private industrialists to operate jointly with us, on a basis of practical competition in the fields of technique and fair business practices, for the purpose of speeding-up the country's development. However, this appeal also imposes a number of urgent demands on our own selves.

Without desiring to be exhaustive, I wish to draw attention to three principles which must be borne in mind and acted on if the extensive and expanding publicly-owned sector in general, and that of the Histadrut in particular, are to justify their existence, not only economically, which goes without saying, but also socially, morally and in terms of community value. To begin with, the labour economy has to be free from any suspicion of capitalist egocentricity.

While adopting and adapting itself to all the achievements of modern advanced technology it must resolutely safeguard its social objectives and shape a special, a social "commercial morality" in the conduct of its affairs. It must refrain from any measures directed against the consumers, and from all trends towards the formation of trusts or cartels. Its purpose is to serve the public, even if that sometimes means temporarily ignoring the profit motive and genuine or supposed "efficiency."

Among the central tasks of the Histadrut economy is to place efficiency, productivity, high output, quality and low prices in the forefront. The centre of gravity of the Histadrut is not to be found so much in commercial success, although this cannot be overlooked, as in giving service to the public which excels that provided by the non-public sector.



Mr. Mordechai Namir M.K. who is to open the 8th Histadrut Convention.

Secondly the Histadrut economy continues and will continue to have a pioneering function to perform. This involves general planning, coordination, pooling of relevant information, common financing and guidance; all these subject to the overriding authority of Hevrat Haovdim. This, it should be remarked, was resolved upon at the sixty-sixth Session of the Histadrut Council at the close of 1952, when it was decided that: "The autonomy of the economic institutions of the Histadrut shall be maintained, and each of them shall continue to function within its own field. However, Hevrat Haovdim shall take steps to ensure efficiency, prevent duplication and demarcate the dividing lines and spheres of cooperation between the various institutions vis-a-vis one another, and between them and the Board of Management of Hevrat Haovdim." In accordance with the resolutions then passed, Hevrat Haovdim is "the authority empowered to fix the lines of economic policy for the Histadrut and its institutions."

The third principle is that the workers in the Histadrut enterprise must be borne in mind no less than the enterprise itself. I believe that, given an all-out effort on our part, it is possible to create a new kind of industrialist in this country; a type corresponding to the new kind of farmer we have brought into being. There seems to be neither a technical nor psychological obstacle in the way of this. Yet it will not be achieved under even the most satisfactory relations between management, whether publicly-controlled or not, and hired workers. That is why it is so urgently necessary to take experimental steps to secure worker participation in factory management.

STRUGGLE for STANDARDS

By Aaron Becker M.K.
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau; Head of Trade Union Department

LABOUR movements in all parts of the world are engaged in a constant struggle for full employment and a decent standard of living for the working masses. This struggle is necessary even in long-established rich countries with strong economic foundations. We in Israel are working for the same ends, but because our country is new and undeveloped we have also to help construct an economic basis capable of sustaining full employment and a high standard of living. For we realize how directly these depend on the productive capacity and rate of productivity of the country, as well as on the distribution of national income among different classes.

This additional task of helping in the construction of the economy is what gives its special character to Histadrut trade union activity. Ever since Israel attained independence, the Histadrut has given thought and effort to promoting economic development and stability, both through its wage policy and through encouragement of greater productivity.

In the sphere of wage policy, it has carefully balanced its practice between two considerations, the needs of the worker and the capacity of the economy. In the sphere of production, we realized that while increased output in itself helps to expand employment, the quantity of production alone is not a sufficient guarantee that employment can be maintained for long. We require also a high level of productivity, that is, of output in relation to labour costs, if our regular wage. The Histadrut is goods are to become competitive on world markets. For this reason, since 1949 the Histadrut has worked consistently for greater efficiency of production, and has encouraged linking of wages to output.

Joint Consultation

Joint production councils have now been established in industry, building and public works, citrus picking and other branches of agriculture, and in office administration. This joint consultation system covers a quarter of a million workers, while wages of 70,000 workers are linked to output. These years have witnessed a quite remarkable change both in productivity and in responsible attitudes to work.

The Histadrut is entitled to claim a very great share of the credit for this highly significant change.

Increased productivity of course benefits the plant in the first place, but the workers have also raised their earnings by premiums varying between 10 per cent and 40 per cent of the regular wage. The workers' standard of living has also risen since the last Histadrut Convention in 1949. The rise cannot be fully expressed by comparing the direct wage alone, for other social and economic developments have significantly affected security and living standards.

National Insurance, workers' provident and pension funds, paid annual leave and public holidays, accident insurance and paid sick leave, improved services in education, health and other fields, the great expansion of housing, and a long period of almost full employment, with protection for the worker against dismissal; these are all factors which have been established by law or by collective agreement since 1949, and together they have had a profound influence on the worker's position in society. It is therefore fair to say that there has been a definite improvement in workers' conditions compared with the pre-State period, as a result both of the Histadrut's achievements and of the developing system of social legislation.

Clearly, however, no standard of living can be defined as "high" or "low" in an absolute way. It is felt as high or low, in relation to the circumstances of time and place, and the relative value attributed to various factors. Those of our workers who immigrated in earlier years will certainly concede, from their experience, that the standard of living is far higher today than in the thirties or forties; while for the majority of newcomers, conditions in Israel represent a decisive improvement in living standards.

Facing Problems

Great as the achievements of organized labour have been to date, the movement also faces numerous problems, some of them organizational and some economic. The problem of securing adequate sources of employment to occupy all our labour force is one of the most serious. In addition to all the other dangers of unemployment and the human suffering involved, unemployment is the great enemy of organized labour and a threat to the social achievements of even the most skilled and securely placed worker.

Suitable employment for elderly or partially incapacitated workers is another problem causing grave anxiety, and one to which no simple answer is in sight. None of us can possibly agree to allow thousands of people to live in our country without any prospect of regular work or security, simply because they are old or feeble. Any constructive solution requires not only money but also initiative. The problem is not limited to Israel and was recently discussed by the governing body of the International Labour Organization in the course of a discussion on discrimination at work, when it was pointed out that discrimination on grounds of age is the most universal form of all. The general problem of unemployment, and the specific aspect relating to handicapped workers, receive constant thought in the Histadrut.

The proper ratio between payment for different occupations and different degrees of responsibility is an issue which has greatly occupied not only the labour movement but the country as a whole in the past few months. The question concerns most countries at the present time in view of the tendency everywhere for differentials to decrease.

This trend results in part from the inflation which has affected many countries since the war, and in part too from the declining proportion of unskilled workers as a result of technological advances and of universal education.

But a third and perhaps decisive factor has been the rising standard of living of the lower income groups. ILO statistics confirm the existence of a general trend towards narrowing the gap between the standard of living of the workers and that of professional and other more highly paid groups; and this is borne out by information from Britain, the Scandinavian countries and even the U.S., where differentials between unskilled and skilled workers, or between skilled workers and professionals, have been on the decline.

Factors at Work

In Israel too all these factors have been at work; but in addition there has been the effect of a cost-of-living allowance calculated on a limited part only of the basic earnings. While admitting that the c.o.l. allowance has been mainly responsible for distorting differentials to a point where correction becomes necessary, we have however to credit the allowance with avoiding something far more serious — the creation of social differences between different elements of our working population. Without a sliding c.o.l. allowance, the full brunt of the inflation would have been borne by the weakest social groups, the unskilled workers who in any case have least security of employment; and as a result we should probably have experienced grave disturbances of labour relations, with quite unpredictable consequences. It is a great pity that our intellectual circles who, we might have hoped, would be sensitive to these considerations, have failed to understand the forces operating to reduce differentials in Israel, or the worldwide tendencies in this direction. I should like to make our position quite clear on this point.

Differential Pay

We do not oppose different rates of pay for different types of work; on the contrary, we fully appreciate the need for changing the salary ratios. But we have all of us to appreciate also the moral and social, as well as economic, limits suited to the structure of our society.

If the demand for large differences in earnings is ideological and intended to set up social barriers between sections of our working population, then that is something which we cannot by any means accept. At the same time we fully agree that a doctor or engineer or other highly trained person is entitled to compensation and incentive after the many years devoted to preparing for his profession, and for this reason the Histadrut gave its consent to new salary scales providing substantial increases for professional employees.

The Eighth Convention of the Histadrut is meeting in the shadow of grave political dangers, and the security effort demanded of us must inevitably divert some of our energies from economic development and from our efforts to raise the standard of living. But recalling the puny forces with which the Histadrut began thirty-five years ago, we cannot but feel a sense of pride in the road we have travelled since then — a pride which gives us renewed confidence and strength to face the difficulties of the future.

A Labour Society in Transition

By Reuven Barkatt
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau; Head of International and Arab Departments

FUNDAMENTAL changes comprising in effect a total revolution in our political, economic and social life have been condensed in Israel into the space of a few years. This rapid transition to a totally new set of circumstances demands from all elements of our population a dynamic and purposeful reaction to adjust successfully to the new conditions: and adjustment requiring insight, courage, and both the ability and desire to modify accepted and often consecrated patterns of thought and action. The Histadrut is now in such a process of transition, resulting both from the change outside its own orbit, with the establishment of the State, and from the expansion and changed composition of its own membership.

Since 1948 the Histadrut has grown at a rate outstripping the general population increase; the affiliation of immigrants and of groups previously outside its framework has transformed it in a few years from an organization of 176,000 to one of 540,000 men and women comprising the great majority of the working population of every trade and profession. These developments, positive as they are in themselves, have created strains and problems that compel a reappraisal of Histadrut activities and careful analysis of its structure. The task is so important to the labour movement and to the country as a whole that no accepted dogma can be allowed to obstruct necessary reforms. At the same time great care will be needed to make sure that we do not dispense with the forms and instruments we have before better tools are ready for the job.

Internal Cohesion

The rapid growth of the Histadrut raises first of all the question of its internal cohesion. Both politically and from the occupational point of view the organization is more variegated than it was. But we have frankly to admit that affiliation does not always imply that deep inner allegiance which formerly marked the relations between the Histadrut and its members.

The internal cohesion which once prevailed resulted both from the idealism animating a great part of its members, and from the close, almost intimate, contact between them and the organization. This intimate contact no longer exists in a body of more than half a million. Partly, therefore, the question of cohesion is an organizational problem which may require structural changes. Some hard thinking has been going on in the Histadrut, and various proposals have been broached, but the problem as such has not yet been solved.

The labour councils in each town used to be the second home of the working man. They are still the nerve centres of the labour community but have become largely administrative in function. Ways must be found of establishing smaller units which will recreate the direct relationship with members which did once exist, and which was one of the main sources of Histadrut strength. For this purpose the present structure of the Histadrut may have to be modified. There are of course dangers in decentralizing control, for the existence of certain centrifugal tendencies must be admitted. But the risks will have to be faced.

Decentralization would strengthen the democratic content of the Histadrut at all levels. At present democracy is virile at the level of the workers' committees in individual factories, and at the other end of the scale in the Executive Committee itself; at the intermediate levels, however, there is no doubt that democratic participation has fallen off. With smaller units, fuller and more efficient democratic functioning would become possible, and should serve to revitalize the sense of social responsibility among the broad masses of working people.

With all necessary precautions to safeguard the unity of the organization, the trend must clearly be a shift in the centre of gravity from the centre to the periphery. To achieve this, it should not be necessary to divest the present labour councils of their responsibility or control over their constituent sub-units. But a synthesis will have to be found which would interweave central control and local autonomy in the day-to-day activities of the Histadrut. The structural re-examination of the Histadrut should extend also to the relations between the labour councils, which include all workers living in a specific area, and the trade unions, which are organized nationally on an occupational basis.

The comparatively recent growth of the national unions calls for a new definition of functions and delimination of authority between them and the labour councils. This is not a simple programme. It would require the willing cooperation of the labour councils, based on a generous vision and a clear grasp of changing realities.

Growth of Labour

The changes accompanying the growth of the labour movement have been so far-reaching that they have begun to affect one of the basic principles on which the Histadrut is founded: the assumption of an underlying unity of interest between all sections of the working community. The Histadrut is most unusual among labour movements in attempting to combine so many categories of workers within a single framework, and the implications of its comprehensive structure are now being tested. The simple organic unity which existed in early years, between the Emek settler, the road builder and the town worker, is no longer so simple or so self-evident as it was.

Twenty-five years ago a network of relationships held together the rural and urban worker, relationships springing in part from the needs of the times, from the external pressure of both the Arab community and the Mandatory Government, and from the mutual interdependence of the two groups. The urban worker, for instance, was the main protagonist of the use of locally grown produce and so made it possible for the settlers to find a market; while the urban worker in his industrial struggles had the full support of the rural workers. The two sections identified their interests within the over-riding national interest.

To-day the growing mass of industrial workers are consumers with interests of their own; while the farmer too as producer has his specific interests. In this field, too, fresh vigorous thinking is needed to enable the Histadrut to continue to serve as a comprehensive organization for all the working people of the country.

On a different plane a similar change has come about in the relations between the Histadrut and the intelligentsia. Mistaken as it would be to ignore the strains which have developed between the Histadrut and professional employees, it would be equally mistaken to attribute it exclusively to differences over salaries. The salary issue must not be underrated, but the roots of the problem lie much deeper and form part of the transition through which the labour movement is now passing.

Our labour movement was created by people who were not workers to begin with. They however saw themselves as the agents and servants of a social revolution whose primary aim was to create a class of Jewish working men and women. The need for a class of workers was so great that in order to establish it, a new scale of social values was evolved which placed at the pinnacle the man who performed hard manual work — because this was precisely the most difficult thing for people from professional and middle class backgrounds. Such workers were the primary need because without them there was the danger that here too the Jewish population, by engaging mainly in professional activities, might leave the hard basic work to the Arabs and so reproduce the economic and social anomalies of the Diaspora against which the Labour Zionist movement was in revolt.

Now, owing to the new exigencies of the State, and to the altered composition of our community, the most urgent need is for more skill, science and specialization. As a result, the scale of values is changing correspondingly to place at the top science, planning and skill; and the place of the working intelligentsia in society will have to alter to correspond with the new emphasis. The crude expression of this change is the new slogan po'or or salary differential. But this demand as it now stands contradicts the whole ideological and moral basis on which the labour movement has been established, and so gives rise to a deepening gulf between the professionals, on the one hand, and the industrial and land workers on the other. Here too a synthesis is required to harmonize the equality principle which underlies the outlook of Labour, with the changes which have come about in our society.

Confronted with these problems, the Histadrut can only hope to overcome them if it continues to apply the single criterion of service to the community. It is with this sense of service that the Histadrut was conceived in the beginning, and it should be made clear to all its members that the time has not arrived when the Histadrut can divest itself of this public service function.

The Histadrut is an organization of tremendous actual and potential power. This imposes on it a responsibility to refrain from using its power to advance only its own special interests, but to see in it an instrument of service to meet the needs of the country and of society in our time. In every instance of a clash between a particular and a general interest, the Histadrut must give precedence to the general, while safeguarding the particular interest as far as possible.

The Arab Community

This criterion of service is relevant in analysing the structure, democratic processes and international relations in the labour movement, and the relations between the movement and the state. Should the Histadrut ever abandon the criterion of service, its claim to moral hegemony in the community would be seriously weakened and its inner strength undermined.

This sense of service prevails also in spheres not directly related to day-to-day Histadrut activities, for instance in its international relations or in the approach to minorities. Histadrut Arab policy is based on many motives: on a sense of moral obligation to ensure that in Israel there should be no discrimination whatever on account of differences in race, creed or religion; on workers' solidarity in the interests of the working community as a whole; on political considerations, and a conception of Israel's deepest short and long-term interests.

While well aware of the intricacies of the security problem and its connections with the posi-

(Continued on p. 11, Col. 3)

Women Create a Bridge

By Beba Idelsohn M.K.
General Secretary, Moetzet Hapoalot

ONE of the important sections of the Histadrut is the Working Women's Council—Moetzet Hapoalot—which was established at the same time as the General Federation itself. Even then it was felt, not only by the women who took the initiative, but by the general membership as well, that there were many purposes for which women workers had to organize separately.

Moetzet Hapoalot has grown in the course of years to a membership of 250,000 and its social activities have made it a factor of national importance in the social services of our country.

Through experiment, trial and error, the framework of the Working Women's Organization has been adapted in relation to the specific functions we have undertaken. So we have one department which concentrates on vocational training of women and youth; another deals with the welfare of children of all ages. A special department organizes working women, and conducts cultural activities, particularly among newcomers, utilizing publications, meetings and a variety of forms of approach.

In recent years the emphasis in all our work has been placed increasingly on the integration of newcomers. Indeed, since 1948 practically all our efforts and energies have been concentrated in this field. The hostels known as Batei Hahalutzot, founded by the Women's League for Israel in America and run by Moetzet Hapoalot, have been an important factor in helping many immigrant women to get on their feet, and have given hundreds of women their first home in Israel.

No less important has been vocational training of women, through courses which equip them to earn their livelihood.

At the same time we have expanded our agricultural secondary schools for boys and girls, some run by ourselves alone, others in cooperation with Wizo. Our child welfare programme dealt with some 13,000 children in the past year alone, in crèches, nursery schools, infant welfare stations, and club rooms.

In *ma'barot* and *moshavim* throughout the country, Moetzet Hapoalot guidance centres help women to cope with all the problems their new life presents; and to keep these guidance centres operating a very extensive training programme for instructors is required, since in the main we try to find instructors from among the ranks of the communities they are to serve.

In its work among immigrant women of oriental communities, Moetzet Hapoalot is well aware of the delicate balance on which family relations rest, and of the danger of violently disturbing family life and social concepts. We know that social ideas and family relationships are bound to change under the impact of Israel life, and we are of course interested in promoting changes in the direction of greater independence and equality of women. But we try to introduce such changes gradually and constructively, through the effect of education in practical matters such as hygienic habits, sensible care of children, medical attention and good food, rather than through a sudden and possibly destructive ideological attack.

For this reason, our instructors are told explicitly not to belittle ideas, and especially religious beliefs, with which they may happen to disagree. This approach has already proved justified. We found, for instance, that at first many oriental husbands opposed any separate activity by their wives and disapproved of attendance at our meetings or demonstrations.

But the positive effects of newly learnt methods on the health of their children has won their confidence. Two months ago, when we held Hanukka celebrations in 114 centres throughout the country, the women not only came but many brought their husbands too.

Moetzet Hapoalot would not have been able to carry out all the tasks it has undertaken without enlisting the support of Zionist women in other countries, and for many years now, organizations know as Pioneer Women have worked with Moetzet Hapoalot in united endeavour. We have found the greatest help and encouragement in this cooperation with members abroad.

The oldest and largest body of Pioneer Women is that in the U.S., which has contributed substantially to our work over a period of 30 years. Today there are branches of Pioneer Women in twelve countries, and the movement embraces altogether over 300,000 members of whom, however, 83 per cent live and work in Israel.

And so, after 35 years Moetzet Hapoalot has, indeed, been a part of the great process of nation building. And when the labour movement comes, at its Convention, to strike the balance of accomplishments and obligations of what has been done and what remains to do, it will no doubt accord a special role to Moetzet Hapoalot, whose function remains now as in the past to reconcile the needs of the individual and society, to enhance the cooperation and equality of men and women, and to create a bridge between social ideals and the world in which we live.



The Foundation Convention of the Histadrut at Haifa: December 1920

Tasks of Hevrat Ovdim

By Ze'ev Onn
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau; Secretary, Hevrat Ovdim

THE diverse activities of the Histadrut in the economic sphere, controlled by its economic authority "Hevrat Ovdim," play an important role in all branches of the country's economy, and have a particularly decisive role on the productive side. Hevrat Ovdim's basic objective has always been to make a fundamental contribution to the upbuilding of the economy of the State.

The primary basis of the labour economy is agriculture. The labour settlements, today numbering close on 600 villages, supply the country with 75 per cent of its consumption of agricultural produce. This represents a very considerable national and social achievement, and, as is well known, it is the outcome of such original organizational forms as *Kvutza, Kibbutz, Moshav Ovdim, Moshav Shitufi* and *Moshav Olim*. This achievement has cost forty-five years of toil and effort, and is now acknowledged by all as the pride of the nation.

The contribution of the labour economy to the industry of the country is also considerable. The 750 industrial enterprises within the framework of the labour economy constitute 21 per cent of the country's total industry, and extend to many agricultural settlements and new towns in the Negev, in addition to the main industrial centres in the country. In the industrial field, labour concentrates chiefly on large basic enterprises.

Development has been most pronounced in new immigrant centres, such as Beersheba, Ramle and Acre, and in such basic fields as iron and steel, sugar refining and foodstuffs.

The development of agriculture and industry has been the fruit of the planned initiative of three jointly responsible factors — the Government of Israel, the Zionist movement and the Histadrut. These are the three basic forces responsible for the fundamental development of our economy.

In addition to the two basic fields of agriculture and industry, the development of shipping must be given due mention. The Zim Company is a national concern, jointly owned by the Histadrut and the Jewish Agency and it enjoys considerable assistance and encouragement from the Israel Government through the Reparations Agreement.

Ampal's Share

In the field of finance, special mention should be made of the activities in the United States of the Ampal Corporation, which is an associate of the Workers' Bank and a subsidiary of Hevrat Ovdim. The Ampal Corporation has succeeded in raising tens of millions of dollars and has attracted private capital for investment in conjunction with Government and Hevrat Ovdim, with complete confidence on the part of the private investor. Among our local financial institutions, the Gmul Company with the aid of Hevrat Ovdim, channels the funds which accumulate in the Workers Insurance and Provident Funds into productive investments in the labour economy and in the economy as a whole. These valuable workers' savings are fully safeguarded to insure proper returns regardless of changes which may occur in the cost of living. Gmul is now the principal factor in the country supplying financial resources for productive investment. Hevrat Ovdim has just recently established a new savings and investment company, "Igarot," which is about to issue stock on behalf of Hevrat Ovdim and its institutions.

In the field of marketing and commerce, Tnuva and the consumers' cooperation are the two leading instruments of Hevrat Ovdim. While Tnuva markets agricultural produce, the consumers' cooperatives, headed by Hamashbir Hamerkazi, meet consumer requirements in town and immigrant settlements, and help to establish fair trade practices, checking speculation and permitting fair distribution of necessities in times of shortage.

From these few notes, it may be concluded that Hevrat Ovdim, since its inception in 1923, has given and will continue to give its full contribution to strengthening the economy of the country.

However, just as we cannot be satisfied by anything less than economic independence for Israel — an objective which will require much concentrated effort to achieve — so Hevrat Ovdim cannot rest satisfied merely with what it has achieved up to the present. Our first objective now has to be the expansion of agricultural production on a healthy and normal basis. To this end we must find joint measures with the Government and financial circles in the country in order to help young agricultural settlements, where financial distress is considerable and gives rise to much concern. The next objective must be industry, where Hevrat Ovdim was one of the first to clarify the need for planning, besides imposing on itself and its subsidiaries the task of participating in the country's industrialization.

The central problem of balancing the country's trade remains that of export; and undoubtedly Hevrat Ovdim has to be geared to do its full share in that respect. Hence a third main point in our programme is the continued concentration and absorption of the resources of the workers in savings and investments for export activities.

The Middle-Man

During the past year Hevrat Ovdim has given considerable attention to problems of the middle-man and the price differential as between producer and consumer and importer and consumer. There is complete chaos in this respect in the country, and both consumer and producer alike are being exploited. Steps in this connection would involve on the one hand the arrangement and coordination of relations between the agricultural producers of the Histadrut operating through their major institution Tnuva, and the consumers in the Consumer Cooperative Movement. At the same time this activity will be of great importance in view of the necessity of keeping prices level and maybe even lowering them.

It may be expected that the top-level institutions of Hevrat Ovdim which are to be re-elected after the forthcoming Histadrut Conference will be charged with renewed energy to carry out the primary tasks which are identical with the needs and requirements of the State of Israel.

Articles on Solel Boneh and Hevrat Ovdim by Hillel Dan and A. Zabarsky on Page Eleven.

WHEN SICKNESS COMES

How Kupat Holim Provides Full Health Services

FOR the working man anywhere, illness in the family can be a disaster undermining everything he has achieved by years of toil: hence the importance of health insurance in any modern programme of social security. In Israel, health insurance means more. Only an insurance scheme which makes treatment and the number of visits to the doctor quite independent of the amount paid, could have provided the re-education in health required by a large section of our population, and so brought about a general advance in health standards. For a country where health insurance is purely voluntary, Israel, with three-quarters of its population insured, has an extraordinarily highly developed insurance system. And of the total number covered by health insurance, 97 per cent belong to Kupat Holim. Kupat Holim also spends 98 per cent of the total budget of all health insurance organizations in Israel.

Kupat Holim is based firmly on the principle of mutual aid. Since contributions are proportional to income while services are equal for all, the better paid members and better-to-do districts are in effect subsidizing services to the poorer sections. This is an accepted Histadrut principle, and it is made possible by centralizing all income and making allocations to the districts from the central budget according to need. Though taken for granted in Israel, this system is not common elsewhere.

By Itzhak Kanev
Director of Kupat Holim

Nature of Service Changed

Mass immigration changed not only the scale but the nature of demands on health services, owing to the poor state of health of most immigrants, whether from oriental countries or survivors of war-time Europe.

Under a special arrangement with the Jewish Agency for free attention to all immigrants in their first three months, Kupat Holim bore the main brunt of this tremendous problem. All newcomers are given a medical examination on arrival with the aim of isolating infectious cases to prevent the spread of endemic diseases, and detecting disease as soon as possible to ensure proper care. Special attention is paid to tuberculosis and venereal diseases. After the first three months in which the Agency insures newcomers, Kupat Holim continues at its own expense to give them special terms during their first year in the country. These conditions include free attention for a further three months if unemployed, a reduction of 40 per cent in the normal membership fee for a period of nine months, and no charge in the first year for various services which veteran members pay for. All benefits are given newcomers without a waiting period.

Owing to the special requirements in chronic cases, and the social problems raised, Kupat Holim in 1935 set up a special Disability Fund to care for chronic patients. The Fund deals in particular with tuberculosis and mental patients, maintaining two special lung hospitals and four mental hospitals for different types of disorder. It is encouraging to know that some 70 per cent of patients in these special hospitals are able to return to productive life, and that the average length of hospitalization is gradually dropping.

Owing to the constant shortage of adequate premises, Kupat Holim constructs its own dispensaries, hospitals and convalescent homes. It has been estimated that for every 1000 members one hospital bed plus 70 sq.m. of dispensary space are required — a total area of 150 sq.m. The tremendous growth of the population in recent years compelled Kupat Holim to step up its building programme very considerably, and 7 per cent of its total budget is set aside regularly in an Investment Fund for this purpose. Two building plans have been carried out at a total cost of IL4.5 million. Since 1948 alone, Kupat Holim has built 450 additional dispensaries and health centres with a total ground area of 50,000 sq.m.

The work of Kupat Holim and other public health services is reflected in the striking changes which have occurred in mortality and the incidence of disease in the short space of a few years. Infant mortality in the Jewish community, which thirty years ago stood at 130 per 1000 live births, has fallen to 34 (after a brief sharp rise in 1949) while in the agricultural settlements, where the whole population is usually under Kupat Holim care, it is only 20-26 per 1000, one of the lowest levels achieved anywhere in the world. Infant mortality in the Arab community has also markedly declined from over 150 to 62 per 1000. As a result of maternity care and full hospitalization for confinements, maternal mortality has reached the low rate of 0.8 per 1000 births.

Figures on malaria and other illnesses illustrate the control gained over endemic diseases: through a combined anti-malaria campaign by the Ministry of Health, Kupat Holim, and the National Fund swamp draining projects, the number of new cases per thousand among Kupat Holim members has fallen in the last eighteen years from 22.4 to 0.2 per 1000. Typhoid and paratyphoid among Kupat Holim members have declined from 7.6 per 1000 in 1935 to 0.5 in 1962, while tuberculosis has also been drastically reduced to 0.4 per 1000 (apart from cases contracted before arrival in Israel).

New Era in Healing

The new era which began with political independence has thus been one of marked progress in health, but the increased scope and new demands on health services have brought with them many problems. We are now faced with a grave shortage of medical personnel, emphasized by the low proportion of professional people among the newcomers particularly acute in rural areas, so that one hundred villages have no regular facilities but rely on one or two visits a week from the nearest doctor, in some cases new hospitals could not be opened for lack of nurses. The high average age of our doctors contributes to the difficulty of staffing rural dispensaries and hospitals. We are particularly short of young doctors and of certain specialists, including surgeons, oculists, pediatricians, orthopedic surgeons and X-ray specialists, a problem which can only be solved by expanding the Medical School in Jerusalem and by immigration of medical men from abroad. Kupat Holim itself has for nurses and other categories an extensive training programme of medical personnel; here, too, this is a responsibility which no voluntary insurance administration elsewhere undertakes.

With 70,000 people a day visiting Kupat Holim dispensaries, a reorganization of work in the dispensaries is urgently necessary. In spite of all the new dispensaries built there is still overcrowding, and as a result of emphasis on new areas, projected improvements in service to the older membership have been delayed. The Directors of Kupat Holim after careful examination of the question have however come to the conclusion that a shortage of dispensaries is not the whole of the problem, and have proposed a change from the present method of organization to a capitation system as practised in Britain and elsewhere. Strangely enough the capitation system on which British and Scandinavian doctors have insisted is here opposed by the doctors, but we are discussing the plan and are still hopeful of introducing a change along these lines.

Hospital accommodation is still seriously inadequate, in spite of extensions by various health authorities but particularly by Kupat Holim. Israel now has six hospital beds per thousand population in place of a ratio of double that number in advanced countries, while the shortage is even more marked in certain special areas, for instance mental hospitals. Most of the small private health insurance organizations do not carry out any building on their own but take the easy way of paying for their members in existing institutions.

Financial Difficulties

Financial difficulties of course complicate all other problems. This situation is not confined to Israel. Owing to advances in medicine and increasing use of laboratories and expensive therapy, comprehensive medical attention is becoming more costly all the time, and health insurance schemes in Britain, France and Italy are all facing financial crises. In Israel the problem is complicated by the fact that the immigrants who on the whole require most attention are also those least able to pay. Service per family in a new settlement costs about IL200 a year; of this the family itself contributes on the average only IL30-40 a year, while if the man is employed part of the time outside his settlement the Government or other public employer will contribute a similar amount. The balance, amounting to more than half the cost, is carried by Kupat Holim itself — that is, primarily by other sections of the workers. Of Kupat Holim's total budget, which this year comes to IL45m., members' fees and payments account for more than half, while employers (private and public) contribute some 35 per cent. Government and municipal grants amount only to about 8 per cent of the total, and unless this participation is increased to at least 10 per cent Kupat Holim will have no choice but to cut its services.

In considering all these problems, it is a source of gratification to record the full cooperation which exists between Kupat Holim and the National Insurance Institute. Under an agreement with the Institute all injured workmen, and most of the maternity cases, are hospitalized in Kupat Holim institutions. The situation in this sphere is an exemplary illustration of cooperation between compulsory and voluntary forms of social insurance.

And here are some figures: Kupat Holim members have increased from 142,675 to 445,000 since 1948, and the total number of insured persons (members and dependents) from 328,000 to 1,050,000.

Total number of Kupat Holim dispensaries were in 1948 — 373 and in 1955 — 880. Kupat Holim has 8 general and 6 special hospitals with 2,125 beds in all. Kupat Holim also runs 6 rest homes on its own, and 6 with other bodies, with total accommodation of 1,466 beds.

Kupat Holim staff numbers 7,166, including 1,500 physicians, and 2,100 nurses. The Kupat Holim budget for 1955 amounts to IL45m. Of this workers contributed 50.8 per cent, employers 38.3 per cent and the Government 8.8 per cent.

In 1954 Kupat Holim auxiliary institutes included 446 pharmacies, 78 laboratories, 21 X-ray institutes, 33 physiotherapy institutes, 8 rehabilitation institutes, 45 dental clinics, 16 dental laboratories, 180 infant welfare stations and it maintained hygienic supervision in 154 schools.



Kupat Holim facilities form the network of medical services extended to new settlers and work villages.

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

By Yitzhak Haskin
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau. Histadrut Treasurer

THE finances of a body of half a million members, which includes half the adult population of Israel, are clearly of interest not only to its own membership but also to the public at large. In the six years 1949-1955 the total receipts of the Histadrut Executive Committee amounted to IL46m., which derived from three main sources: the share of the Executive Committee in Histadrut membership fees; payments by labour economic institutions towards the organizational budget of the Histadrut; and its campaigns abroad.

The budget administered by the Executive Committee does not cover all activities connected with the labour movement; it is specifically the budget financing administration, trade union and cultural activities. It also leaves the Executive Committee with a certain balance of funds to pump into whatever activities and services it regards as of special importance at the time. But for these varied purposes the Committee has at its disposal only 40 per cent of the fees paid by Histadrut members. This fee, which ranges between 4 per cent and 4½ per cent of the member's earnings, automatically covers his payments to Kupat Holim and the other welfare institutions of the labour movement, and these various forms of insurance account for about 60 per cent of the total. Fees are collected by the fees office, and after deduction of collection costs are distributed as follows:

Kupat Holim and Disability Fund	44.5%
Executive Committee	38.5%
Welfare institutions (Mishan, Dor l'Dor, Matziv)	13 %
Employment Fund	2.0%
Strike Fund	2.0%
	100.0%

Histadrut membership fees are expected to total some IL22m. in the current year. Of this the allocation to the Executive Committee is estimated at some IL9.5m. The Committee's budget totals over IL14m. and membership fees are thus the main source of income, accounting for about 72 per cent. Of the remainder about 10 per cent is contributed by labour economic enterprises and 18 per cent by Histadrut campaigns abroad. Payments of the economic institutions are based on a regular system of calculation, in proportion to the turnover of the institution in the previous year and the character of each enterprise. Manufacturing and industrial enterprises like Solel Boneh pay IL3.8 for every thousand pounds of their turnover; financial institutions such as the Workers' Bank pay IL1 per thousand; housing companies like Shikun Ovdim pay IL2.5, as do commercial agencies like Hamashbir Hamerkazi. On the expenditure side, more than one-third goes to finance the activities of the local Histadrut branches, the labour councils.

Each district once used to retain part of the fees paid in its area, and forward the balance to the centre. This meant, however, that the labour councils of well-to-do districts had greater means at their disposal than the poorer ones, and especially after mass immigration began just the reverse was needed. So it was decided to centralize all income, and apply in this field, as in others, the Histadrut principle of mutual aid, the stronger centres helping to finance the new and weak. Since the change was introduced three years ago, all labour councils receive annual allocations from the Executive Committee in accordance with the budgets they present each year. Of the 57 councils now existing, 15 have been established since 1948, while the area of jurisdiction of many other councils has been extended to include *ma'barot* and new suburbs in their vicinity.

Organisation and Culture

Next to the sum earmarked for local work, the two main fields of expenditure are organization and culture. Organization accounts for about one-seventh of the total budget; this includes the network of trade unions and expenditure on organization of Arab workers; also under this heading come grants of more than IL500,000 to Histadrut welfare institutions.

Cultural programmes receive about 10 per cent of all expenditure, a recognition of the special importance of this work at the present time. Most of this goes to finance the programmes of the Histadrut Cultural Centre and to maintain the four workers' colleges; but there are also grants to numerous cultural institutions both within and without the labour movement. A small but important item is the grant for scholarships to members of oriental communities.

In addition to the three main items, labour councils, organization and culture, the budget provides for a wide range of activities, among them vocational training, support of the Working Youth Organization for working youngsters under 18, the sporting activities of Hapoel, guidance and information of labour groups on municipalities, auditing the finances of labour institutions, and numerous others.

When the employment situation began to deteriorate in 1953 the Histadrut re-opened the Employment Department which had been suspended soon after the establishment of the State. The new department cooperated with the Government in ameliorating unemployment, and in particular, established a Fund to provide credits to enterprises which could utilize these funds to increase employment. In the three years of its operation the Fund granted credits totalling IL12.4m. to local authorities, housing companies, public and private industrial enterprises and agricultural settlements, and as a result more than a million and a half workdays were provided.

About 18 per cent of the income of the Histadrut Executive comes from campaigns abroad, especially in the U.S. and Canada. There was a time, before the establishment of the State, when these campaigns were the chief support of the Histadrut and provided two-thirds of its income.

After Israel became independent, Histadrut adopted the principle that its members must meet all the financial obligations involved in its trade union and organizational activities; this was done by reforms in the membership fees and by charging labour economic enterprises with contributions to the central budget of the movement. Since then money from abroad has been used entirely for development purposes and for work among immigrants. These funds have been spent on industry and handicraft in immigrant centres, educational and welfare centres, including dispensaries, in immigrant settlements, education and vocational training of newcomers, public buildings and community centres in places like Ramle, Migdal Ashkelon, Kiryat Shmoneh, and Beersheba.

In Eilat, a handsome cultural centre has been built by joint contributions of the Histadrut and the Philip Murray Foundation of the CIO. The Histadrut campaign, founded 32 years ago by a handful of members, has in the course of time interested many thousands of people in the work of the Histadrut and in Israel, and is now one of the largest Jewish organizations in the U.S. and Canada. Having helped the Histadrut to maintain its organization when it was still small and weak, the Campaign is now directed to constructive development and social programmes.

How Israel Workers Cooperate for Self-Aid

Mutual Welfare Services

By Baruch Linn
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau. Head of Mutual Aid Department

THERE is a fundamental difference between State social insurance, whose expenditure is covered entirely by the State, as in Eastern Europe, or partly by the State, as in Great Britain, and the voluntary form of insurance developed in this country, where the main cost is carried by the workers, with the employers' participation, the result of a long struggle by the unions and their power of collective bargaining. The significance of our mutual aid institutions can best be appreciated if it is borne in mind that they developed on a purely voluntary basis, and that throughout most of their existence, until Israel independence, they were not backed by any social measures or progressive legislation on the part of the Government. In spite of these difficulties, the welfare institutions founded by the Histadrut have reached a level not achieved by labour organizations of much greater size and financial resources.

The State of Israel has begun to use legislation as a means of dealing with social questions, and the first national insurance laws and other measures of modern social legislation have been introduced. Yet even now, much remains to be done in the field of social welfare and insurance, and the greater part of the burden still falls on the Histadrut.

No solution has yet been found for the problem of elderly or incapacitated members, who meet with grave difficulties in finding work. There is no unemployment insurance and the efforts of the State and local authorities are limited only to the provision of emergency jobs for the unemployed.

The Histadrut member gains social security in two ways: (a) through the mutual-aid institutions of the labour movement; and (b) through the activities of the trade unions which have negotiated collective agreements embodying various social benefits whose cost is borne partly by the worker and partly by employers.

The payment of the Histadrut membership fee or *mas ahid* automatically confers on the member full rights in all Histadrut welfare institutions. In this respect, Histadrut policy differs from that of similar institutions in Western countries. Here, the benefits and rights of the member are independent of the amount he pays; the fee is proportional to the wages earned, yet the Histadrut member who pays say IL3 a month enjoys the same rights as one who pays IL9. This principle is accepted in progressive national insurance, such as that of Great Britain, where the health services are paid for by the Government, but not in the other branches of national insurance. But in trade union insurance scheme carries out this mutual aid principle; as a rule members get equal rights for equal dues.

The main welfare organization of the Histadrut is, of course, Kupat Holim. (See this page). The Histadrut has, however, three other mutual-aid institutions, which are perhaps less well-known to the general public. They are Mish'an, Dor l'Dor, and Matziv.

Mutual Aid Fund

The purpose of Mish'an is to help any members who find themselves, from time to time, in difficult circumstances. It helps with small loans in times of trouble, contributes for constructive purposes, such as vocational training, and assists needy members in other ways. In the course of last year, Mish'an spent about IL2,000,000. Dor L'Dor is a special fund to help aged members. To men who have reached the age of 65, and women of 62, who are no longer able to work, it grants a monthly pension amounting at present to between IL 20 and IL30. Matziv provides financial aid to the dependents where the head of the family has died. These institutions are under very great pressure, and unfortunately are not able to respond adequately in all situations which are liable to arise in the lives of the worker and his family. Nevertheless, they constitute an important part of the social welfare provisions of the country.

In the second field of activity, namely, the trade union sphere, collective agreements negotiated by the Histadrut have secured a range of social benefits which now cover perhaps three-quarters of all workers, and have become a vital element in the standard of living of the Israel worker. These benefits include 70 per cent to 80 per cent of full wages during illness, compensation in case of dismissal, paid holidays and others.

Insurance or Provident Funds exist at almost all places of work. These funds accumulate contributions, paid in each month by the worker and the employer, and save them for the worker against his retirement. At the present time, most of these funds are engaged in a change-over which will replace the one-time cash benefit paid on retirement by monthly pensions paid for life. When the old-age pensions instituted by the National Insurance Law become payable from April 1957, the pensions provided by the workers' funds will supplement the State pensions so as to bring the retired worker's income up to some two-third of his final wage before retirement.

Help for Widows

The Insurance and Provident Funds also provide help to widows and orphans of deceased members. The most important of these funds are: Mivtahim, with 60,000 members, chiefly industrial workers and also civilian employees of the army; the Agricultural Workers' Fund, with about 45,000 members; and the Building Workers' Fund, with 44,000 members. There are also smaller funds maintained by the clerical workers, citrus packers and others.

National Insurance and other measures of labour legislation are of course a most important advance in social security. The provisions for accident insurance and maternity insurance included in this scheme imposed no great additional burden on workers or on industry, because the voluntary form of insurance in these fields was already so widely practised.

The social achievements secured by the Histadrut mutual-aid network, and the contributions of employers to social security in terms of collective agreements, thus combine with State measures of insurance, to establish a fair level of social security for Israel's working population. There are still a number of objectives ahead of us to extend and complete our social security.

It is vital to introduce additional branches of insurance to cover unemployment, sickness and invalidity. Furthermore, the State should participate in financing national insurance, as is the practice in all progressive social insurance. At present, only the employers and workers contribute to financing the insurance programme but it will not be possible to improve the level of security without State participation. In the field of health, State support is even more urgently required. The Histadrut's health insurance scheme, carried out through Kupat Holim and the Disability Fund, carries responsibilities of a national order in providing medical attention for immigrants and extending medical services to back new land settlement programmes. These tasks involve an expenditure which the workers cannot carry alone even with the help of contributions from the employers, and Government support is indispensable.

Helping Beat Unemployment

By Berl Repetur
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau. Head of Employment Fund

UNEMPLOYMENT is the great dread of workers everywhere, and all labour movements are vitally concerned with maintaining full employment. To the Histadrut the problem of employment is even more fundamental, because employment and immigration had always to be considered together. There could never be a question of the Histadrut safeguarding the job security of its members by keeping out newcomers—on the contrary, the whole of its programme was built to make place for as many newcomers as possible.

The problems of unemployment received a different meaning, as far as the Histadrut was concerned, after the establishment of the State. The Government became responsible for immigration, absorption and the provision of employment for those who had no work, and the demands of the unemployed were automatically directed to the Ministry of Labour and to the local authorities. Yet even after the establishment of the State, the Histadrut felt that it was duty bound to continue dealing with unemployment, while of course, taking into consideration the changes that had now come about. This was all the more necessary when unemployment reached grave proportions, as in 1953. The Histadrut had no illusions that its initiative and activity could immediately solve long-standing problems and difficulties or that it could suddenly introduce a fundamental change in the situation. However the Histadrut has made an important contribution not only through its initiative and experience but also by the organizational and financial instruments at its disposal.

Histadrut activities created millions of work-days through the provision of credit to various enterprises. In the course of three or four years, the Histadrut has annually invested some three to four million pounds in the form of credit to various undertakings which, otherwise, would not have been able to carry out their projects. The monies advanced by the Histadrut led to hundreds of thousands of additional work-days in building, manufacture, agriculture, water works and also in loans to local and regional authorities.

The financial resources provided by the Histadrut were restricted in scope, but were used to prime the economy at its focal points, and so brought work to various parts of the country. It is important to note that Histadrut activities in the field of employment included particular concern for labour enterprises and projects which expanded the industrial and settlement basis of the economy, encouraging immigrant villages and border settlements to face their difficult tasks.

The main unemployment centres during the past three or four years were in the big cities, and there has been no alternative but to use the easy solution of public works, which are of less value to the country than the transfer of workers to agriculture, or the provision of permanent employment in industry and handicrafts. Large sums were expended on temporary public works, public gardens, sewerage, roads and various development enterprises.

Future Steps

Future steps to reduce unemployment must involve the expenditure of money from Government and other public sources, chiefly for productive works; and it is true that recently several important steps have been taken in this respect. However, they are usually insufficient and the financial resources of the Histadrut have more than once been required to complement what has been done by the authorities.

One of the programmes initiated by the Histadrut in the past few years was the town to country movement. This movement was not initiated solely or perhaps even mainly in relation to unemployment, but with the aim of reducing the gap between the number of workers in basic productive undertakings and those in areas of less importance. But the transfer of several thousand families to agriculture under this scheme was undoubtedly significant also for the solution of the employment problem. Many of the workers who went from the cities to the villages are facing great difficulties on account of lack of preparation for their settlement. Yet this was a great achievement which has helped in some measure to change the social structure of the population.

Here it should be mentioned that Histadrut economic activities and its own industrial enterprises have played a significant part in improving the situation. The various industrial undertakings established during recent years, more particularly in primary economic branches, have also made an important contribution to productive employment. Many of these industries have been sited in towns like Beersheba, Ramle, Acre and Migdal Ashkelon, and so have helped to establish the new towns on healthy economic foundations.

While the call has frequently been put out to disperse the large urban concentration of workers, insufficient success has been achieved in this direction. Though serious unemployment justifies resort to emergency works, this can never be a substitute for basic economic development. Furthermore, the wages paid on relief works were seldom sufficient for the upkeep of the worker's family, especially considering that the normal allocation of work was from 10 to 12 days a month. The Histadrut finally abolished special relief pay and is endeavouring to reduce unemployment where necessary on the basis of normal union rates in productive employment. The Histadrut has never favoured payment of a dole to the unemployed, and such funds as might normally be expended on the payment of a dole will continue to be used in the most productively possible way. The emergency works carried out in the past were seldom economically justified, and the Histadrut will use all its influence to ensure that such public works as are necessary should be linked to some productive settlement purpose. In this way, the investment of money will be limited and a basis will be provided for the transition of workers to creative employment.

Much time has been devoted in the past to clarifying these problems, but the perennial problem of security, the challenge of the desert areas and the financial stability of the economy, call for continued initiative on the part of the Histadrut. Manpower has to be directed to strengthening the frontier settlements. We must put an end to the situation which imposes a heavy burden on the few while large numbers crowd in the urban centres without any prospect of permanent productive employment.

The Government may be able to introduce a far-reaching change in our economic situation. While in the future employment will continue to be the responsibility of Government and local authorities, the Histadrut will always have a part to play in connection with this problem.

Relationship of Histadrut and State

By Yehudah Shaari
Member, Histadrut Executive Bureau

THE time has come to examine the relations between the State and the Histadrut and to distinguish clearly the functions of each. However, the coming Convention cannot rest satisfied merely with a demonstration of solidarity between them or with emphasizing the great influence of the workers in shaping the State. It will also have to define the functional relations between the two. The Histadrut built up Jewish independence in numerous ways and in so doing performed vital tasks in preparing the seeds of statehood. Now that the State is here, however, state functions must be handed over to it; for, as the old Hebrew saying goes, two kings cannot use the same crown. Yet there is strong opposition to this view, on two grounds: first, the theory of "unity of functions" in the Histadrut; and secondly, the assumption that nothing should be handed over until the State is socialist, and until labour rule is firmly and unchangeably established. I believe that neither of these views can be justified by any criterion of democratic thought or progressive socialism.

The founders of the Histadrut felt and believed that their organization was everything: It was the socialist state on the way, it was the political spokesman of the working class, it was the trade union, the instrument for fulfilment of Zionism, for reviving the Hebrew language and culture, etc., etc. Actually it is a frequent sociological phenomenon for a social or political body to attempt to embrace everything at the beginning, without a clear definition of functions or allocation of authority and powers. In early societies, the king was also the high priest, commander-in-chief, supreme judge, prime minister, and so on. Yet what is democracy? Surely, among other things, it is also the division and restriction of power, the delimitation of functions, and demarcation of authority.

Where the state, the trade union and the party are identical there is no democracy. For there is a qualitative difference between these three entities. The democratic state is based on the sovereignty of the people; the party on a common ideological approach of its members; and the trade union on common economic, social and professional interests. The different basis of each also implies the differentiation of functions within the fabric of democratic life. The doctrine that State and Histadrut are identical, in the sense that even after the establishment of the State the Histadrut continues to be the "state on the way" and runs counter to the approach of free democracy, which is based on a division and not a union of powers.

I do not believe that those who wish everything to be in the hands of any one body are necessarily the ones most faithful to their organization. It is in the interests of each of these organizations to define and limit its activities.

As a member of Haoved Hazioni I am against everything being in the hands of any single organization. Each form of activity must be handled in the appropriate organizational, political or social framework. Let us not transform the State or the Histadrut into a myth which is not amenable to rational thinking and whose nature and purpose must not be examined by logical analysis.

Responsibility of State

There are, of course, some who admit all this but argue that the Histadrut should not transfer its activities to the State until it is quite clear that government by the workers has come to stay. This point of view is anti-democratic. Every democracy is based, *inter alia*, on the possibility of change in government; one cannot assume that when a party falls from power it should take with it the instruments of government; or that a party in opposition can withold legitimate state domains from the control of the government in power. It seems extremely opportunistic to agree, for instance, that the Government should participate in Mekorot when the Minister of Development is "one of our men," but oppose this when the Minister belongs to another party — even another labour party. Quite apart from this, the worker stands to gain a great deal from imposing economic and social responsibility on the Government.

The aim of every labour organization is to defend and improve the rights of the worker; in Israel however this alone is insufficient, because we have first of all to make the masses of our people into real workers and at the same time help develop the national economy, so as to provide a livelihood for the existing population and for those who join us in the future. The question is: must a labour organization seek to accomplish all its objectives with its own resources, or should it try to ensure that the government becomes an important and possibly decisive factor in securing the worker's position?

Function of Government

The rest of the world has long ago given its answer. Other labour movements and progressive organizations recognize that the function of modern government it not merely to maintain law and and its economic arm Hevrat Ovdim as the Socialist state en route; other justify it by newfangled "socialist" arguments of nationalization being undesirable. As to the first point, one must ask how it is possible for two bodies to exercise state functions in so small a country. Regarding the second point, it is true that nationalization is no panacea for all problems, nor does the group which I represent support complete nationalization of the economy: we support the continued existence of three sectors, state, cooperative and private.

In what way would the worker benefit? Social insurance is based on the principle of mutual aid; if the workers alone carry the cost of insurance, the classes with higher incomes are precisely those which escape a share of the burden. For example, the greater part of the cost of Kupat Holim medical services is covered by the workers' contributions through their Histadrut membership fee which, although it varies with income, is regressive rather than progressive in tendency. The general public is hardly aware that 45 per cent of the fees paid by Histadrut members is segmarked for medical insurance; in 1955 80 per cent of Kupat Holim members earned under IL200 a month, and paid 4.5 per cent of their wages in Histadrut fees. Under a state health insurance scheme, contributions could be secured from the whole population, and graded in a progressive way, according to income.

It is argued that the Treasury cannot afford an additional burden for health insurance, but in reply it must be pointed out that unified health services could avoid much waste and duplicated expenditure. Furthermore, compulsory health insurance could be introduced in stages. It is also argued that the State lacks the necessary experience for running the insurance scheme, but it would be quite feasible for the insurance institutions to remain in the hands of the insured population, only under government supervision. Secondly, this is one field in which we have more experience than in most others. If there had been no Kupat Holim all these years, we would not be able to contemplate compulsory health insurance today. It is Kupat Holim which has done the spade-work, a fact for which it will always receive the credit.

But there is another aspect. Social insurance and welfare functions strengthen the state internally and enrich its content. It appears not only as a taker but as a giver — something of the greatest importance for the social stability and integration of our population. Furthermore, the insurance funds serve as an important instrument of Government investment.

The principles outlined above apply also to other services. The State must make it its business to find sources of work; and it should also be responsible for work distribution. For this reason we of Haoved Hazioni believe it is absolutely necessary to establish a government-controlled labour exchange as an instrument by which the state would provide employment, deal with economic absorption of newcomers, with the dispersal of population, vocational training and so on, and promote the mobility of labour and its mobilization according to need. Government control of the labour exchanges would also be in the interests of those seeking employment, for it would promote employment of organized labour and oblige both workers and employers to utilise the channels of the labour exchange. In this way the possibility of discrimination in work allocation would be removed, and the party key — that factor which bedevils the record of the Israel labour exchange — would be done away with.

In the field of public transport too, a service so vital to the national economy, the Histadrut cannot put an end to the permanent crisis without the use of the law and of coercive powers; there can therefore be no solution save control by a public authority. I should like to stress that in all these fields we do not envisage these services as government departments, but as autonomous public bodies with maximum provision for participation of the public in their control.

Controlled Planning

In our view, it is also necessary to define more clearly the frontiers between the state economy and that of the Histadrut. We are always calling on the Government to exercise responsibility for the development of the country, to strive for economic independence and stability, and to plan accordingly. Yet how can the Government achieve these ends without the necessary instruments? We therefore support the position that natural resources, power plants, and basic industries should be either state owned or state controlled. This certainly does not mean that I think the entire Histadrut economic structure should be handed over to the Government. By no means. We do not advocate limiting the Histadrut to the strictly trade union field alone, for there is no doubt that the workers require an economic arm to aid them in their efforts to improve their position. If an individual may own property, then a group of people are certainly entitled to own property in common. A great many things in this country would never have come into existence had it not been for Labour initiative. We merely stress the need to draw clearly the line of demarcation, with the dual purpose of giving the State its due, and preventing the state apparatus from swallowing up everything.

THE PEOPLE'S INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

Histadrut Enterprises Develop on a Conscious Plan

By Hillel Dan
Managing Director of Solel Boneh

HISTADRUT industry is not a haphazard collection of miscellaneous enterprises. With all the variety in the labour sector and autonomy of individual enterprises, Histadrut industry as a whole has developed in response to certain aims and in its broad lines is shaped by a conscious plan. The labour movement was drawn into the field of industry by the same factors which impelled it to economic action in the fields of agriculture and building: the aim of increasing self-sufficiency, combating speculation, opening up new fields of enterprise and expanding employment scope.

Histadrut industry in all employs some 21,000 workers or about 25 per cent of all hired industrial workers in Israel. With so much of Israel industry concentrated in secondary areas and dependent on imported raw materials or semi-finished goods, the Histadrut sector emphasizes the basic branches with the aim of creating a sound foundation for our industry as a whole.

Basic industry is not a field in which private investors have shown much interest, probably because Jewish industrial experience in other countries was limited to lighter branches, and only a body willing to take the risks of entering unknown fields could pioneer development in this direction.

The Histadrut has never claimed a monopoly in this field or any special privileges and has always welcomed cooperation with private investors or other public institutions. But in spite of considerable encouragement by the authorities, experience has shown that no organization apart from the Histadrut is ready to undertake the basic industrialization on which so much of our economic future depends. Thus, while the labour sector accounted for 40 per cent of all industrial investment in 1954, it was the major factor in the sphere of heavy basic industry.

All industrial activity of the Histadrut, in glass, ceramics, metal or other spheres, has been based on careful planning, the main criterion of which has been to supply the local market and create a surplus for export.

The aim is always to maintain a proper balance between the local market and export in each individual branch and at least to cover the cost of supplying an industry with its imported requirements, so that the branch becomes a self-sufficient unit of the economy. Though we have not succeeded entirely in this respect, the criterion acts as a spur.

Industrial planning goes hand in hand with training of personnel, one of the most vital needs of Israel today. Advance planning also made it possible to disperse our industry, so that today whole new cities dating from after statehood now make their living mostly from industries set up by the Histadrut.

Ninety-eight per cent or more of the workers in these factories are new immigrants who have adjusted very well to machine work which often requires considerable skill. Not only have they for the most part succeeded in reaching the norms, but in some cases have surpassed them. From the ranks of the newcomers there have also risen a number of first-class foremen.

Of course it costs us something to learn the ropes, both at the level of management and on the shop floor. But we should know that the immigrants very quickly learn a trade, and acquire new skills more rapidly than we had reason to expect.

THE next phases of industrialization are closely bound up with the Reparations Agreement, and this increases the need for planning on a national scale. On the one hand, loyally as the Agreement has been implemented to date, there is always the possibility of economic or political changes in the future; on the other hand, the Agreement opens up opportunities on a scale which only imaginative and decisive action can fully exploit. Opportunities have already been lost through hesitation and indecision. It is doubtful to what extent any organization outside the Histadrut is in a position to utilise these opportunities for industrial development, but in order to allow full scope to all forms of enterprise and to facilitate the implementation of a full-scale industrial programme, the Histadrut suggested the formation of industrial development companies in which both public and private enterprise would participate. The labour sector on its own is working out an industrial development programme involving many millions in the course of the next five years, which should be integrated into an overall industrialization programme for the country.

The fields in which the labour sector is now active and plans to expand include, first of all, iron and steel. In the final stage of production, we had behind us the Vulcan Foundries and the Hamat boiler works. In 1950, the Middle East Tube Co. for electrically welded pipes was founded, the first plant of the Acre complex planned to extend the metal industry to include eventually all the basic production processes; in 1953 the Steel Rolling Mills were added, and the next stage will be the first local smelting plant to provide ingots, the starting point for manufacture of steel and drawn steel pipes. Although the materials are now mainly imported, the mines already started in Galilee and the Negev should meet all our requirements for at least 20 years.

Using these ores and pyrites resulting as a by-product from the manufacture of sulphuric acid, we hope at a later stage to produce our local requirements of pig iron. The smelting plant is already under construction and arrangements for the plant to produce pig iron are already well under way.

The other areas in which the Histadrut is planning or already constructing new enterprises include a diesel engine plant; one for fireclay and firebricks; a sugar refinery; expansion of fishing and canning; shipyards; and a number of industries, especially in the electronic field, in Jerusalem.

This programme, together with other projected enterprises in vital sectors of the national economy, will provide a firm basis for our metal industry, and place our whole industrial structure on more secure and normal foundations, both in the range of products and in their ability to compete.

Of the sum invested in the industries of Solel Boneh and Koor, apart from the quarrying industries of Even Ve-Sid, only IL5m. represents a debt to the Government. The remainder has been drawn from capital accumulated by Solel Boneh, whether by regular ploughing back of surpluses, or the participation of local and foreign private investors.

In this connection, it might not be out of place to refer to the experience of cooperation between Histadrut and private capital. The great majority of Histadrut members have never regarded private capital as necessarily opposed to their interests and in its role as *entrepreneur* the Histadrut is convinced that the task of economic development gives scope and indeed requires participation of both public and private capital. In many cases we have actually assisted private investment to find its way in Israel. Factories operated jointly by Histadrut and private capital have continued to run smoothly for many years, and we intend to continue this policy of cooperation. Many of our partners are Jews from abroad, but we also have non-Jewish partners, who have the fullest confidence in us which has been justified by the financial success of the enterprises.

For the development of our industry we require both productive capital and technical know-how, which has been provided by both our Jewish and non-Jewish partners. They have shown a serious approach, and a great measure of understanding for our principle of maximum development of an enterprise before deriving profits. The nearer we approach to economic independence the richer will be the flow of private capital to our country.

There is no doubt that the Histadrut will have to undertake a major part of any industrialization programme, for with all the criticism that has been levelled at it, not many private industrialists are prepared to come forward at this stage. However, there is no reason why private capital, especially of Jews abroad, should not play a larger part in this programme, and I believe that prospects of having them participate are considerable.

If we succeed in raising this capital, both the investors and Israel would benefit and the industrialization of the country could be carried forward without overburdening the development budget. The result would be valuable on all counts: a sound basis being provided for our industry, agriculture extended and complemented by industries utilizing its products, and the foreign currency deficit largely reduced.

Solel Boneh

	Employees	Turnover
1949	12,900	IL. 24,000,000
1954	26,500	180,000,000

Producers' Coops.

	No. of Coops.	Employees	Turnover
1949	202	7,780	IL15,600,000
1954	307	12,056	77,500,000

Consumer Cooperation

	Turnover
1949	
Hamashbir	IL14,700,000
Consumer Stores	15,600,000
1954	
Hamashbir	71,200,000
Consumer Stores	91,800,000

PRINCIPAL ENTERPRISES AFFILIATED TO SOLEL BONEH

MARITIME SERVICES
United Harbour Services: Omnim Ltd.; Shahal Ltd.; Savar Ltd.; The United Shipyards of Israel Ogen Ltd.; Maritime Services Ltd.; Lacish; Bonded Warehouses Ltd.

INDUSTRIES COORDINATED BY "KOOR" INDUSTRIES & CRAFTS CO., LTD.
HAIFA & ACRE: — Palestine Portland Cement Works Nesher Ltd.; Paper Products Manufactory Ltd.; Solel Boneh Paints and Varnishes Plant; Vulcan Foundries Ltd.; Middle East Tube Co. Ltd.; Israel Steel Rolling Mills; Steel Melting Plant (in erection); Soltam Ltd.; Hayama The Israeli Shipyards and Engineering Works Ltd.; Palestine Glass Works Phoenicia Ltd.; Israel Safety Glass Co. Ltd.; Israel Ceramic Works Harsa Ltd.; Gapim Ltd.; Vulcan Battery Works Ltd.; Hamagen Ltd.

HADERA: — Alliance Tire & Rubber Co. Ltd.

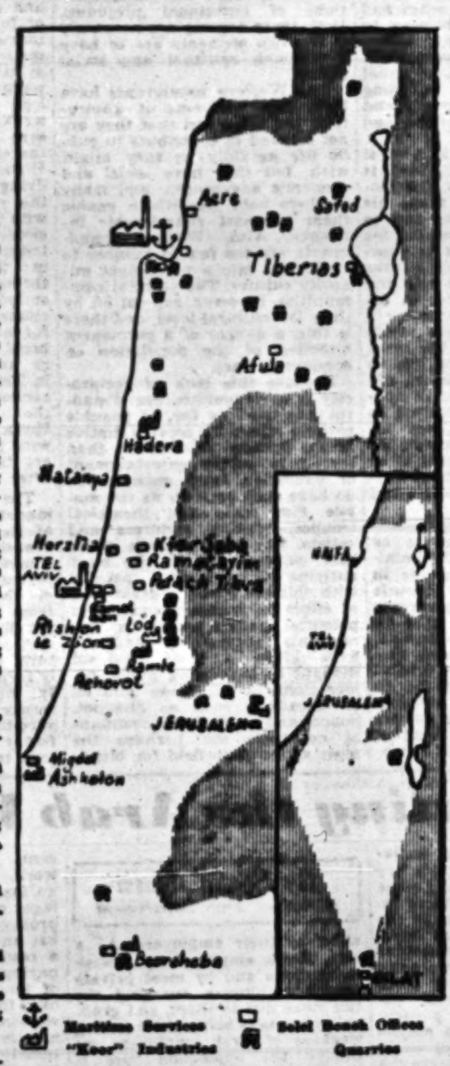
TEL AVIV: — Hamat Ltd.; H. M. H. Ltd.; General Building Materials Hamak Ltd.; Kheymer Ltd.; Marseilles Tile Factory.

LOD: — Consolidated Telephone & Radio Co. Ltd.; Harsit Ltd.

RAMLE: — Electrical Motors and Appliances Industry Ltd.; Palestine Portland Cement Works; Nesher Ltd.

JERUSALEM: — Phoenicia Instruments Ltd.

MIGDAL ASHKELON: — Yuval Gad Pipe Mfg. Co. Ltd.



BEERSHEBA: — Israel Ceramic Works; Harsa Ltd.; Masad Ltd.

DISTRICT SOLEL BONEH OFFICES
Haifa; Tel Aviv; Jerusalem; Beersheba.

LOCAL OFFICES: — Emek Zevulun; Tiberias; Natanya; Kfar Saba; Ramat Gan; Givat Rambam; Rehovot; Acre; Hadera; Afula; Herzliya; Ramatayim; Petah Tikva; Rishon Le Zion; Migdal Ashkelon; Eilat.

Water Drilling; Water Works Ltd.; Oil Prospecting; Israel Oil Prospectors Corp. Ltd.; Massada, The Israel Oil Drilling Co. Ltd.; Minerals & Mining; Segev Ceramic Materials Co. Ltd.

LIME & STONE PRODUCTION CO. LTD.
Quarries

HAIFA & NORTH: — Km. 46 Km. 5 Nahlah; Benyamina; Ein Harod; Heftzibah; Tiberias; Migdal; Safad; Tira; Kiryat Shmoneh; Kfar Yeladim; Naalal; Hagalil; Nazareth; Elkana; Sahala; Hanah Amir.

JERUSALEM: — Beer; Boaz B; Kastel; Nahshon; Shaar Hagai; Moshe Nahamiahu.

TEL AVIV & SOUTH: — Migdal Zedek; Tirat Yehud; Rock Products Ltd.; Givat Koah.

BEERSHEBA & NEGEV: — Mishmar Hanegev; km.16 (Metsad Tamar); Mifaley Hatsats Nahal; Beersheba B.M.; Hamachtesh Hagadol; Eilat.

MAIN FACTORIES: "Even" Marble & Concrete Blocks (Haifa Bay); Kastel Marble Processing Plant (Kastel, Jerusalem); Workshop (Tel Aviv); Concrete Pipes & Precasts (K.M. 44 Haifa); Tile Factory (Beit Safafa, near Jerusalem).

Functions and Policies of Hevrat Ovdim

FINANCING A LABOUR ECONOMY

By A. Zabarsky
Managing Director, The Workers' Bank

THE growth and development of the independent labour economy organized within the framework of Hevrat Ovdim have brought it into all the main branches of the country's economy — agriculture, industry, building, transport, housing, marketing, insurance, credit, etc. It is therefore quite natural that Hevrat Ovdim, since its early beginnings, has had to develop its own financial instruments capable of mobilizing the resources needed to finance all branches of the labour economy. Thus, as early as 1921, only one year after the founding of the Histadrut, it was decided to establish The Workers' Bank as the central financial instrument of the labour economy, and in 1922 this decision was carried out and the bank began to function.

In the 35 years which have passed since then the dimensions of the labour economy have grown beyond the wildest dreams of its founders. While in 1954 the general turnover of the labour economy was estimated at over IL800m., it is expected that this year the turnover will reach the region of a milliard. It is obvious that this kind of growth involves gigantic sums for basic investments, which expand simultaneously with the development of the economy, and for working capital which also involves considerable sums and grows with production and expanding activity in all forms. The perennial search for the supply of adequate financial resources has made the financial problem one of the most crucial and difficult of the labour economy.

Small and Weak

When the Workers' Bank was established 34 years ago when the workers' community in the country was small and weak both in numbers and in wealth, it was clear that this new institution would be unable to fulfil its task as the main financial arm of Hevrat Ovdim unless it could find ways of drawing its resources both from the institutions of the World Zionist Movement and the ranks of friends of the Histadrut abroad, primarily from American Jewry; and indeed at the very establishment of the bank the Zionist Executive participated and acquired a considerable number of shares. From its modest beginnings the Workers' Bank has, in the course of 34 years, become one of the foremost banking institutions of the country, and its balance sheet together with those of its subsidiaries, associates, and the cooperative credit and insurance institutions' provident funds today exceeds IL250m.

Thus, as far back as 1938, the Workers' Bank made a serious extra effort to mobilize large resources from American Jewry, and this effort brought to fruition in 1942 the establishment of the Ampal Corporation in America, under the joint ownership of the Workers' Bank and Hevrat Ovdim. Ampal in the 14 years of its existence has become the biggest financial organ mobilising resources for Israel, (apart from Israel Bonds which it obviously suggested) not on the basis of donations and campaigns but on a purely economic footing.

From its successful activities, not only the institutions of the Histadrut have benefited but also the Israel Treasury, the Jewish Agency and other institutions. Ampal's balance sheet today reaches $30m. and in addition there have grown up around it many enterprises and investment companies whose capital reaches $12m.

It can be claimed that tens of thousands of investors in all parts of America have learned, thanks to the cautious and responsible activities of Ampal and the punctual fulfilment of all its obligations both in regard to the redemption of debentures and regular payments of interest and dividends, that in Ampal the labour economy has established a completely sound financial instrument, investments which stand the test of the most exacting business standards.

The Savings Society

Only three years after the establishment of the Workers' Bank, whose function was to serve the economic enterprises and institutions of the Histadrut, a cooperative Loan and Savings Society was set up, that is a credit coop, whose main task was to serve the individual member in his various demands for cheap and easy credit.

At that time this was a daring experiment and it also succeeded beyond expectation. And today there is a comprehensive network of 25 workers' loan societies with 50 offices (all of which are organized within the Audit Union on the board of which sit three directors of the Workers' Bank.) Together with the 20 branches of the Workers' Bank, these societies serve 150,000 members of the Histadrut. Cooperative credit societies also constitute one of the more important financial institutions in Israel today.

A further stage in the financial activity of Hevrat Ovdim was reached with the establishment of its various insurance and provident institutions starting with the establishment of Hasneh in 1926, which in the period of 28 years has become the biggest Israel insurance company with a balance sheet of more than IL 8m. — and concluding with the hundreds of provident and pensions funds, which have grown up over the last few years and have reached a total of IL110m.

These pensions and provident institutions, although they were conceived as social welfare institutions, have become one of the most important sources of finance for our economic activities, both from the point of view of their scale and on account of their special character, which favours their application to long-term investment. Four years ago the Gmul Company was established to exploit these resources as efficiently as possible, which increase at an annual rate of IL35m.

Worthy of special mention is the fact that the real value of the moneys channelled by Gmul is absolutely secured and the provident and insurance funds which play so vital a part in the lives of hundreds of hired workers, are able, in our unsettled economic atmosphere, to invest their resources with complete confidence in their real value.

Organised Saving

The concentration of organized saving within the framework of the provident and insurance funds makes possible maximum efficiency in investment and we have recently witnessed the endeavours of the Treasury to initiate a savings movement by the sale of dollar-linked securities, which were crowned with success because the provident funds took up half of the offer (IL18m.).

This successful start impelled Hevrat Ovdim itself to continue the movement by the issue, through Igarot Ltd., of securities to the value of IL10m. It is again clear that the provident and insurance funds will take up over half the sum offered.

The historical conditions which gave rise to labour economic enterprise are often reverted to with proper emphasis. It should be understood that these conditions in fact still prevail today. During the past seven or eight years we have come to realize that private initiative does not show the necessary ability or initiative for the development of the national economy, and for this reason the labour economy must continue to undertake the burden of pioneering the basic branches of the national economy. This could never be done without the full cooperation of the Government and without partaking of the vast sums set aside for development, and the many current sources of foreign capital which Israel enjoys.

Without the millions of dollars invested by Ampal, it would have been quite impossible to set up the Sefen factory, it would have been impossible for Lapidot to carry out its oil exploration or for Yachin to extend its plantations or to complete the sugar refinery plant, or to expand Zim's fleet, etc.

However great these achievements, we cannot allow ourselves to be complacent, thinking that we have exhausted the financial possibilities of the labouring community organized within the Histadrut. Our work in this sphere is only beginning. There is no doubt that one of our first and foremost tasks is to educate the workers and clerks to become active partners in enterprises of the labour economy by utilizing their savings for the purchase of shares or debentures. If this task should be properly carried out, it will give an additional impulse to the advancement of the independent labour economy, which in the future no less than in the past, will have to play the vital part in securing full economic independence for Israel.

Training Rural Labour

By Y. Horin
Managing Director, Yakhin-Hakal

THE changing needs of agriculture at different seasons always imply difficulties in providing year-round employment for agricultural labourers. This problem crops up everywhere and in some countries has resulted in a migrant labour force that follows the seasons across the country. In Israel this particular employment problem is concentrated mainly in the rural towns known as *moshavot* — Rehovot, Petah Tikva and others, most of which are situated in the citrus belt. In the years before independence, there was another aspect too — the difficulty of finding employment for Jewish workers in the citrus groves, when Arab labour was plentiful and cheap. Even today, when organized labour has been maintained successfully in almost every sphere, in the *moshavot* there is a tendency, still, to take on unorganized workers at less than regulation rates.

The Histadrut tackled this problem in a characteristic way — by entering the field itself. In 1926 it set up an agricultural contracting company "Yakhin," as an instrument for expanding the employment of Jewish labour in the *moshavot* and ensuring that fair working conditions prevailed. The major part of Yakhin's activities was concentrated in citrus. It contracted with various plantation owners to tend their groves, and also undertook to plant new groves for people in the country or abroad; and it organized packing and marketing of citrus fruit.

This period, 1926-1938, was one of expansion of the citrus industry. Fifteen thousand dunams were planted by Yakhin for foreign residents, about 20,000 dunams of fruit-bearing groves were cultivated and almost a million boxes of fruit were marketed annually. Yakhin became the biggest employer of Jewish labour in the country, and was thus able to set a standard of fair labour practices.

During the war period of 1939-1945, the citrus industry underwent a major crisis. Money ceased to come in from abroad and local fruit was not exported, so that work in the groves came to a standstill. Even during these hard times, however, Yakhin endeavoured to preserve what had been entrusted to it. In addition, steps were taken to process citrus by-products, which helped to market part of the fruit and to foster employment; this later proved a basis for the development of a large citrus by-products industry.

In the course of time it was found advisable to set up autonomous local contracting offices to undertake various tasks which Yakhin as a central organization could not handle, and in 1942 Hakal was established to co-ordinate and supervise the work of the local offices. In 1949 however the two were united in a single body under the name of "Yakhin-Hakal."

After 1948, with the establishing of the State, all institutions dealing with employment faced an entirely new situation. It was no longer necessary to campaign for employment of Jewish labour, or to fight in the same way for fair labour practices.

At the same time there was a severe shortage of foodstuffs owing to the increase in population. Yakhin-Hakal set out to solve both difficulties by establishing large-scale vegetable gardens near places with a concentration of immigrant labour. These gardens covered 15,000 dunams in fifteen different areas, and during the six years of their existence have provided more than a million workdays.

The other main activity of the company was the rehabilitation of citrus groves. Thousands of dunams belonged to owners who had become disappointed with citrus growing and wished to abandon it. Yakhin-Hakal took over the financial responsibility for rehabilitating their groves, and also undertook the rehabilitation of a large part of the area controlled by the Development Authority. The total area of groves rehabilitated by the concern amounted to almost 20,000 dunams, now producing about two million boxes of fruit a year.

Believing as it did in the importance of citrus for the national economy, Yakhin-Hakal was not content merely to preserve what was already there, but initiated new planting on a large scale. The national programme aimed at expanding the area of citrus to the level achieved before the War of Independence. This meant adding 120,000 dunams to the 130,000 dunams already in existence. Yakhin-Hakal participates in this national programme in four ways. Between 1952 and 1955 it planted 10,00 dunams, chiefly for residents abroad. It organized and supervised the planting of some 12,000 dunams in 27 immigrant settlements for the Jewish Agency, the work being done by the settlers under company instructors. It also participates in Hadarei Israel, jointly with the Government and Pardess Syndicate, and through this company is taking part in the planting of 10,000 dunams under a savings scheme sponsored by the Ministry of Finance. Furthermore, it is cooperating with the Agricultural Workers' Organization in a workers' savings scheme which will involve the planting of close to 10,000 dunams.

The company's report for 1955 shows the following range of activities: cultivation of fruit-bearing groves for various owners, on an area of 22,000 dunams; marketing of some two million boxes from 800 groves, which constitutes about 20 per cent of the total export; new planting of groves on a total area of 40,000 dunams under various types of partnership, of which 25,000 dunams have already been planted while 15,000 are being prepared; cultivation of vegetable gardens and interim crops in the groves, totalling some 20,000 dunams; producing 3,000 tons of vegetables, 600 tons of maize, 1,600 tons of cotton, 1,200 tons of peanuts, etc.; processing of citrus and vegetable conserves; marketing 15 per cent of the country's output of citrus juice and other citrus by-products and vegetable and fruit conserves. The annual turnover amounts to about IL30m., and an average of 4,500 workers are employed through the year.

The rapid development of citrus and the need to foster other branches of agricultural export, particularly through development of a big agricultural industry, to absorb the growing surpluses, provide a wide field for the activities of Yakhin-Hakal, calling for all its experience and organizational ability.

Increasing Productivity

By Aaron Gilat
Head of Productivity Councils Bureau of the Histadrut

WHEN the workers' representatives from some 150 joint productivity councils all over Israel met in Tel Aviv on January 4 and 5, for their fifth national conference, they were entitled to review with satisfaction a quite impressive record of achievements. For the joint production councils have been perhaps the main promoters and exponents of a quiet revolution in industrial efficiency, which is progressively conquering more and more ground in the Israel economy.

A Key Task

The movement really started with a resolution of the Seventh National Convention of the Histadrut in 1949, soon after the cessation of hostilities in Israel's War of Independence. The Convention recognized as early as then, that one of the key tasks for the country's future would be the achievement of a better balance between consumption and production, between imports and exports, that is, the attainment of economic independence. The Convention resolved that increased productivity must be considered one of the major ways of attaining this end.

And so it happened that contrary to experience in many other countries, where the employers and lately sometimes the governments have taken the initiative in rationalizing industry and increasing productivity, in Israel, the initiative came from organised labour. The Histadrut, which considers itself not only the largest public body in the country, but also one with a high degree of responsibility for its future, showed an unusual measure of foresight and accepted the increase of productivity as one of its major tasks. The Histadrut devoted and continues to devote very considerable efforts to this work. At first, it worked quite alone in this field, but afterwards in cooperation with others, as for example, in the Productivity Institute, established jointly by the Government, the Histadrut, the Manufacturers and Engineers Associations.

All activities to improve productivity are based, on the one hand, upon the recognition that high productivity is to the benefit of all elements of the economy, and that everybody therefore could and should cooperate towards this end; and, on the other hand, upon the parallel recognition that such cooperation is the only way to achieve the objective.

The Joint Councils

That is the reason why it was decided to make this work the responsibility of joint councils with equal representation of workers and management. Some of the councils operate in individual enterprises; others cover an entire branch of the economy.

Their *raison d'être* is not only the need for higher productivity, but also, and perhaps primarily, the urge towards industrial democracy, that is, towards fuller cooperation and participation of the workers in the enterprise.

Industrial democracy is in the long-term interest of both management and workers. To management it is valuable in order to achieve a high level of output, which depends, as is well known, to a large extent upon the character of labour relations in the plant. In addition, of course, it is of great importance to the workers, who thus achieve a deeper satisfaction at work.

There is hardly a more natural subject matter for the expression of industrial democracy than joint consultation and action in the field of production and in efforts to improve productivity and efficiency. This then is the work of the Joint Productivity Councils.

People who have had the opportunity to compare the activities of the J.P.C.'s in Israel and abroad, agree that there is scarcely a case where joint consultation fulfils such an essential and active role as in this country.

The Councils in Israel try to combine the encouragement of workers' initiative with the systematic approach of production engineering. Many members of the Council have received special training in the use of production engineering methods. With the encouragement of the councils, more and more production engineers are being employed by the plants, either permanently or as consultants. The number of JPC's not yet using production engineering methods is by now very small. The production engineers and technicians cooperate with the councils and submit their proposals to them for discussion and approval. The Councils thus review studies on work measurements, and norms proposed for purposes of incentive pay.

Payment by results had not been usual in this country, and was introduced as one of the array of tools used by the JPC's. According to an agreement between the Histadrut and the Israel Manufacturers Association, incentive pay is based on norms fixed by work studies; for output above the norm, a premium is paid above the guaranteed daily wage. The premium is calculated in straight proportion to the increase of output.

It is fashionable just now to raise doubts as to the reliability of our norms and incentives, and of course not everything is accurate in this field. But there is no doubt in the minds of those who know the actual situation here and in other countries that in Israel the percentage of norms based on real work study is higher, and the percentage of dubious applications lower, than in many advanced industrial countries.

Rise in Production

And now a word about results. With all due reservation as to the reliability of some of the statistics, quite an enlightening picture can be obtained from figures summarized in a pamphlet prepared for the conference of productivity councils mentioned above. The value of agricultural production in 1949 was IL44m., and in 1954 IL342m., at current prices, or IL101m. at 1949 prices, a rise by 130 per cent. During the same period, the number gainfully employed in agriculture increased from 70,000 to 113,000 — a rise of 62 per cent. This means that the value of agricultural production per worker rose by 41 per cent. Similar data for industry indicate even larger increases. The value of industrial production in 1949 was IL150m., and in 1954, IL950m. at current prices, or IL393m. at 1949 prices. This represents an increase of 162 per cent. Against this the number employed rose by 53 per cent from 83,000 to 127,000, output per employed person rising by 71 per cent.

A 71 per cent increase in productivity in five years is considered extremely high anywhere. It is due to a number of factors: the establishment of new and more modern factories, modernization of old ones, improved supplies of raw materials, gradual acquisition of skill by new workers, etc. But we certainly must attribute also a considerable part of this achievement to that quiet revolution in productivity, of which the primary expression is in the Joint Productivity Councils.

This revolution has affected both personal and plantwide efficiency. If agricultural exports rose by 87 per cent from $21m. in 1949 to $39m. in 1954, and industrial exports from $8m. to $46m. (a rise of 480 per cent!) much of the credit belongs to the productivity drive initiated by the Histadrut and carried forward by the Productivity Institute, the Joint Productivity Councils and similar bodies.

But of course, Israel's exports still cover less than one-third of our imports, and the task before us is tremendous. The achievements of the past in increasing production and raising productivity should serve as a stimulus and an assurance that our future tasks are not beyond us.

SOCIETY IN TRANSITION

(Continued from Page 9)

tion of the Arab minority, the Histadrut firmly opposes any limitation of the rights of Israel Arabs beyond imperative and temporary security measures. Fortunately, in this respect there have been no basic differences between the Government and Histadrut, though there may have been certain differences as to the practical consequences of this attitude.

The principle followed by the labour movement, of full equality between Jewish and non-Jewish workers, has led to the present position where with a few exceptions equality in wages, working conditions and the benefit of social services has been almost fully achieved.

The problem, however, is not only an economic one. The Arab community of Israel since 1948 has been in a phase of transition, torn by conflicting tendencies and loyalties. While there is undoubtedly a pronounced trend, whose strength it would be difficult to appraise, towards full integration and sincere allegiance to Israel, there are certainly opposing tendencies springing from past traditions and ties, and emphasized by the continuing instability in our region. A great measure of patience, understanding and wisdom is required to encourage the positive trends while dealing effectively with the dangers implied by other tendencies.

Social Responsibility

All efforts on behalf of the Arab community come up against the problem that the sense of social responsibility among the Arabs themselves has become partly atrophied by age-long traditions of social inaction. With immigration from oriental countries, this is no longer exclusively a problem of the Arab section, for the oriental Jewish communities too have been influenced by traditional attitudes in these countries regarding the relations between citizen and state, between individual and society. Both the Arab and oriental Jewish communities will have to be educated to a more active acceptance of social obligations. Education in this sense is a slow process and no spectacular results can be expected, but progress is being made and should be credited at least in part to Histadrut influence and action.

In dealing with the Arab sector another intricate problem arises. The Histadrut has tried to introduce ideas of cooperation and development which, to succeed, necessitate a basic transformation of the very structure of existing social patterns, and the encouragement of new elements ready to carry through the work of social progress. The hold of the present ruling forces, the *mukhtars*, elders and landowners, must be relaxed; but to do this in a revolutionary way would create in the process of transition a period of social void and chaos. Here again gradualness is the only way. But this means that the Histadrut has to reconcile itself to slow though stable progress, and voluntarily forgo immediate achievement of its full aims.

An important fact to be borne in mind is that industrial workers are a small minority of the Israel Arab community, which consists primarily of peasants and smallholders. The Histadrut has therefore to take account not only of the Arab workers, mainly urban, who are affiliated to it through its unions, but must also take care of the interests of that part of the Arab population which is not yet affiliated with it, if it is to achieve a new relationship between the Arab section and the more dynamic Jewish society. While gradually bringing Arab hired workers into its orbit, the Histadrut has therefore established instruments to deal with the problems of Arab peasants and smallholders; with quite impressive results. But it regards these special agencies, dealing for instance with marketing, consumption, production, and development schemes, only as transitory forms during the period of adjustment between the two communities; its aim is eventually to integrate these separate Arab agencies into the general organizations in each field.

Political Significance

While dealing with these questions from the specific point of view of Labour, the Histadrut does not ignore their political significance. Apart from the relevance of the Israel Arab minority to our immediate political situation, the Histadrut believes that by remodelling the Arab community in Israel, raising its standard of living and of education, releasing its creative reserves and securing its complete integration and allegiance for the State, the Israel Arab community could become a link between us and the Arab world, and a pilot plant for Middle East progress, when a settlement is finally reached and peaceful cooperation with our neighbours becomes possible for the benefit of all working people of the area.

These are but a few aspects of the many problems the Histadrut has to face. The present situation imposes great responsibilities on the Histadrut, but it will certainly rise to the occasion now as in the past, and place its full moral, organizational, economic and political powers at the disposal of the country in its present difficulties. But even under emergency conditions the Histadrut cannot ignore the natural processes of its own growth and development, or delay the effort required to fit its way of thought and instruments of action to the changing patterns of our new society.

TNUVA MARKETS 73% OF ISRAEL'S AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT

'AND THE LAND SHALL YIELD ITS PRODUCE'

By Nahum Verlinsky
Managing Director, Tnuva

THE seven years between the Histadrut's Seventh Convention in 1948, and the Eighth Convention due to open in a few days' time, have seen considerable development in Israel's agriculture. Local farms now meet the country's needs in vegetables and potatoes for the greater part of the year. Adequate supplies have been assured of milk, poultry and sweet-water fish, the demand for eggs is satisfied in most months of the year, and the consumption of fruit is steadily increasing. It is estimated that our agriculture met about 60 per cent of our needs in 1953/54 and about 65 per cent in 1954/55.

Tnuva has spared no effort to keep up with the increased tempo of supply. During periods of shortage or surplus, and of fluctuating prices, Tnuva tries to serve as a bridge between town and country, to take into account the interests of both producer and consumer. Its connection with agriculture is particularly close, and it is always in touch with the problems of production, storage and transportation of farm produce.

During these seven years Tnuva's share in marketing the agricultural produce of the state has been increasing steadily. This is largely the outcome of increased production in the new settlements, but in part derives also from expanded production in the well-established villages. The share of Tnuva members in the national output of poultry, milk, fruit, seeds and fish is illustrated by the following table:

	1948/49	1954/55	% Increase
1. Cows' milk (millions of litres)	39.1	88.5	127%
2. Sheep milk (millions of litres)	2.0	2.8	40%
3. Eggs (millions)	100.6	230.0	128%
4. Poultry (tons)	2,700	9,000	233%
5. Vegetables & potatoes (tons)	37,000	125,000	238%
6. Fruit (other than citrus) (tons)	10,000	25,000	150%
7. Fish (fresh & sea-water) (tons)	3,000	9,800	227%
8. Cattle, calves & lambs (for table) (tons)	319	1,550	386%
9. Sugar beet (tons)	—	15,000	—

TAKING into account all types of farm produce, Tnuva supplies rose by 153 per cent during this period, so that the Tnuva organization now markets 73 per cent of all produce in the country.

Agricultural Supplies

The year 1954/55, the last complete agricultural year, might have proved one of the most successful we had had, but for a partial drought which caused appreciable losses in grain, plums and grapes, and indirectly in other crops as well. In the winter months of 1954 and spring 1955, agricultural production rose considerably. Last summer, however, there was a falling off in such staple items as vegetables, fruit and sea fish, while the relative increase in other kinds of produce also slowed down.

This decline in the summer months had several causes. First came the effect of the drought and of an early spring. This led to early ripening of fruit and vegetables which were therefore more plentiful in spring than in summer. Then the lower prices for vegetables in the two previous summers resulted in a smaller area under vegetables in the summer of 1955. Finally, considerable encouragement by industrialists diverted part of the areas usually reserved for vegetables, to crops of industrial importance.

All these fluctuations in the level of agricultural output are reflected in the cost-of-living index which thus illustrates very strikingly the influence of agriculture on the cost of living.

Drop in C-o-L

DURING last winter and spring, agriculture was mainly responsible for a drop in the cost of living, through the ample supply of farm produce. In the summer, a reduced supply of vegetables and fruit caused a rise in prices which led to a certain rise in the index, despite the fact that most agricultural produce was more plentiful, even then, than in the corresponding months of the previous year.

Although the direct effect of the size of crops on the c-o-l index is quite clear, it is very doubtful whether the present index correctly represents the position in regard to particular types of crop. A revision of the index is certainly due, and it may then be found necessary to introduce changes in the weighting of different items at different seasons.

Tnuva and its member-settlements have been the main factor supporting Government policy in regard to supplies of farm produce, and it was they who made it possible to implement that policy.

This refers in particular to two aspects: provision of fixed rations of agricultural produce; and maintenance of the official prices for those items of produce which were under control.

Tnuva has been the decisive factor in maintaining regular supplies of agricultural produce to even the most distant parts of the country. In spite of the over-all expansion of output, there have been periods of seasonal shortage in which powerful tendencies were at work against the official controls. Tnuva's organization was a powerful counter-weight to these tendencies. Tnuva tries to ensure that a considerable part of the produce it handles should be distributed to consumers through channels which can be relied upon to provide regular supplies at the official prices; namely, the network of cooperative stores, Tnuva stores and restaurants, and so on.

In recent years Tnuva has greatly developed its network of subsidiary industries. This now includes three plants for pasteurizing milk for bottling; seven dairies where various milk products are manufactured; two factories producing hard and soft cheeses and cottage cheese; and the Pri-Tnuva factory whose canned goods are exported as well as sold on the local market. Among the items it exports are citrus concentrates and other citrus by-products, tomato juice and puree, and other canned fruit, while Hadran citrus juice, jams, tomato puree and juice, canned vegetables and fruit and olives are sold locally.

Pri-Tnuva also operates a factory producing alcohol for consumption and for industrial purposes, utilizing citrus peel, sugar beets, grapes and other raw materials. Another Tnuva subsidiary is the Zayit factory for canning olives, while a special plant provides the cardboard stoppers for bottled products such as cream and *leben*.

Bottled Pasteurized Milk

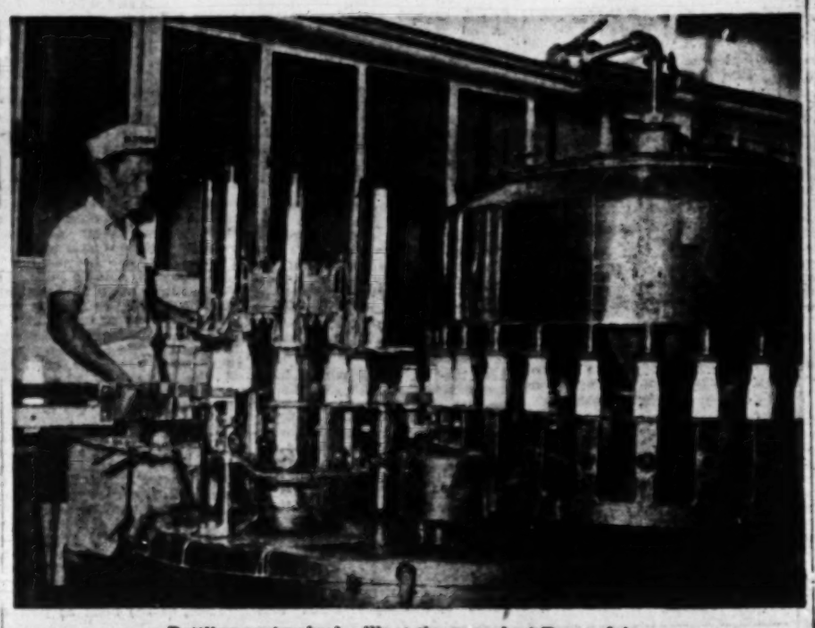
Thanks to the initiative of UNICEF, the U.N. institution concerned especially with the welfare of children, distribution of pasteurized milk in bottles has begun to replace milk supplied from cans. Tnuva is developing two large enterprises, attached to its Tel Aviv and Haifa dairies, for filling pasteurized milk into bottles. When the Tel Aviv plant is completed in 1956 it will be able to bottle 100,000 litres daily.

In the cultivation of industrial crops, the labour villages have played a leading part. 15,000 tons of sugar beet, or 75 per cent of the total, was supplied by labour villages. A joint company of Tnuva and Hamashbir Hamerkazi to market groundnuts and cotton began operations some months ago, and has signed agreements for the planting of 30,000 dunams of groundnuts and 17,000 dunams of cotton. In the current year this company will handle about 40 per cent of the groundnut crop and about 75 per cent of the cotton.

New Settlements

In the past three years the area of land under cultivation has expanded considerably. Numerous new villages have been established and many more are planned. In 1953/54 the new settlements produced 25 per cent of all vegetables and potatoes, and up to 30 per cent of all milk handled by Tnuva. More than 320 villages, representing over 85 per cent of all new villages, are associated with Tnuva. At first there were considerable difficulties in connection with the new villages, not only on the technical side, in regard to production and packing, but also in establishing the idea of organized marketing at fixed prices; and these have not entirely disappeared.

The new settlers in the main lack the sense of cooperative endeavour and group attachment which was the very basis of the earlier settlements, and this affects their attitude to organized marketing. But the villagers are identifying themselves increasingly with Tnuva.



Bottling pasteurized milk at the new giant Tnuva dairy.

THE national plan for agricultural expansion assumes a considerable increase in agricultural exports. Climate conditions are favourable in Israel for supplying the European markets with various crops out of season. Apart from citrus, which is already satisfactorily established, Israel is in a position to export bananas, eggs, groundnuts, vegetables and fruit, honey and flowers. Export of these items is still in an early and tentative stage. We need to adapt our produce to the taste and requirements of the European consumer, while we have yet to find ways of producing at costs that leave room for profit.

In 1954/55 Tnuva exported 5 million eggs, 1,100 tons of groundnuts, 900 tons of bananas, 120 tons of melons, 2.25 million flower bulbs, as well as honey, grapes, avocados, tomatoes and other fresh vegetables and flowers, to the value of $750,000. In all, Tnuva exports of agricultural produce yielded $1m.

The chief conditions for further development of agricultural exports are: a) cultivation of varieties which are in demand abroad; b) careful sorting of produce, and economical and attractive packaging; c) solution of the transport problem; d) regular information on market conditions in the principal importing countries; e) care to ensure that commercial treaties with other countries provide for the possibility of export on favourable terms.

SHAPING CULTURAL GOALS

Aims of Histadrut's Educational Programme

By Bezalel Shahar
Histadrut Cultural Centre

WHAT does the Histadrut wish to accomplish in its cultural programme on which it spends so much time, money and effort? Is there such a thing as a clear-cut system of values which is recognisable as a Histadrut one, and which defines the goals of Histadrut work in the cultural field? If there is, are these goals fixed once and for all, are they the same now as they were thirty-five years ago when the Histadrut was formed? Does the Histadrut believe that the same approach is suitable for all, and that the goal should be to convert all the immigrant communities to a uniform cultural pattern? Have the various immigrant communities no traditions and patterns of their own which it is possible and desirable to preserve and even encourage?

Of course the goals of cultural work are very difficult to define because they are so largely implicit rather than explicit. Then the effectiveness of any planned cultural programme is very hard to gauge. We who are engaged in adult education do not imagine for a moment that our formal programmes are the most potent influence in moulding the changing cultural patterns of half a million Histadrut members and their families.

We know that daily life, the attitudes of officials and fellow workers, experience at school and in the army, and contact with different forms of behaviour in other communities are unconscious but nevertheless decisive cultural influences, probably more powerful than any planned programme.

The Histadrut does claim to have a system of values of its own, which has not changed much in essentials over the past thirty years. They include the ideas of Zionism and Socialism; agricultural pioneering; simplicity in personal life; respect for work; equality of the sexes and more generally a readiness to treat all men as equals; appreciation of liberty and democracy; a positive relationship to Israel in its various aspects, including knowledge of its geography and its past, its fauna and flora, and love of nature.

In many respects it is a rural system of values, and its ideal is embodied in the *halutz*, the pioneer who sets out to make his home in the wilderness and to reclaim it for cultivation and for civilization. The *halutz* is viewed in various aspects — his tasks are to rehabilitate the soil and grow the country's food, to establish a defence outpost, to build up a local society which exemplifies in practice the ideas of Zionism and Socialism, and to volunteer for all tasks of national responsibility and of special difficulty. He is conceived as the creator both of a new society and of a new culture in the more limited sense — he is to be a farmer but also a man of education and taste in literature and the arts.

In certain respects the Histadrut approach may have to be modified in relation to the immigrants. One such change is in a more positive attitude towards religion. Most of the immigrants from oriental countries have an orthodox religious background, but one effect of the general disorganization of their lives involved in immigration may be to estrange them from religion. Even those of us who are not orthodox realise that this reaction against religion does not represent a mature process of thought but is part of the disintegration of old habits and standards. With the collapse of religious values and sanctions, a moral vacuum is created in which the immigrant is easily influenced by the negative features of the society around him.

The Histadrut should certainly not do anything to discourage religious attitudes. We have in the past few years maintained a special committee to supply religious requirements to settlements which want them, and we ought perhaps to consider whether anything more is required in this direction. In other ways, too, a wise cultural policy must find ways of taking into account varying traditions and folklore; but this is easier to recognize in principle than to translate into practice.

Cultural Traditions

For we must recognize quite definitely that no respect for varying cultural traditions can justify perpetuation of the present differences in educational level. The older elements of the community, and immigrants from Western countries, have in education an instrument for social and economic advancement which most of the immigrants from oriental countries have not. As a result, the oriental immigrants, by and large, are compelled to do the least skilled types of work. The communal differences are thus liable to be perpetuated as social and class differences. One of the main aims of Histadrut cultural programmes is to help raise the educational level among the less educated sections, and parallel to this to fight any manifestations of communal prejudice. Both these aspects are necessary if the two elements are to have a common spiritual and social future.

The Western immigrants have their own problems of absorption, and often feel that they are not allowed to contribute to public life as fully as they might wish; but they have social and economic advantages, and many of them hold jobs which enable them to exert considerable influence. Also, Western immigrants are too few in number to crystallize into a permanent minority culture. The oriental communities, however, are cut off by their low cultural level, and there is thus a danger of a permanent bisection of the population on communal lines.

Because this lack of reciprocity is so dangerous, the Histadrut has tried as far as possible to help stimulate local initiative in the cultural field rather than merely to supply entertainment or education from outside. We do have such services as the mobile film units and theatrical troupes, visiting lecturers and artists, who bring aspects of Israel cultural life to the most outlying villages. But parallel with this we spend a great deal of effort on training courses for potential leaders among the immigrants themselves, and we have given a good deal of thought to organizing public celebrations in all these centres, on occasions such as Shavuot, Succot and so on. Such communal occasions are perhaps the most appropriate field for blending general Israeli and specifically communal traditions, and also play an important part in strengthening the cohesion of a new settlement.

In trying to bring forward leaders from the immigrants themselves one of the great difficulties is the relative passivity of these communities, and their lack of experience in voluntary associations of any kind. At the same time it must be admitted that there are certain vested interests in the older sections which resist the impact of newcomers.

But it should be pointed out, as an encouraging sign, that loyalty, insofar as it can be tested in public life, is not given exclusively to members of the same community. In elections to workers' committees in factories, Yemenites do not vote only for Yemenites or Bulgarians for Bulgarians. Neither in Histadrut nor general elections last year was the communal appeal effective.

Finally, I should like in a few words to describe just what the Histadrut cultural programmes include. These programmes are conducted at a number of levels; all the local branches of the Histadrut, the labour councils, have their own programmes of lectures, entertainments, excursions, etc.; many of the unions also run various programmes for their members, sometimes of a technical and sometimes of a general nature. At the centre, the Histadrut Cultural Department gives its assistance to all these activities but also sponsors many of its own on a nation-wide basis.

A very important type of programme is the leadership training course, which may last for several months and is often residential. There have been courses in economic subjects to provide personnel for responsible positions in economic enterprises, and courses for cultural officers or for various categories of Histadrut officials. And there are induction courses for newcomers, at which immigrants living for some weeks in a Histadrut college learn something of the workings of democracy, the present situation and problems of the country, and the aims of the Histadrut, at the same time studying Hebrew and profiting from the rare opportunity of mixing with fellow-students from every element in the country. The Histadrut is playing a leading part in the teaching of Hebrew throughout the country, and also offers opportunities, both in classes and by correspondence, for adults to continue their general education at the elementary and secondary school level; in Tel Aviv there are courses in economic and social sciences at the university level, while in Haifa a special arrangement with the Technion enables workers to follow Technion courses after working hours.

The Histadrut has four permanent colleges at which many of its training programmes are concentrated, and in addition, as I mentioned earlier, it organizes peripatetic services to all parts of the country, quite literally from Dan to Eilat. The Histadrut film service and other mobile services are the mainstay of cultural life and practically the only form of entertainment in lonely villages and border settlements where some form of leisure-time interest is not the least factor in making settlers content to build their homes there.

Settlements in Transition

By Moshe Weingarten
Member of Kibbutz Gesher Haviv, Author of "Life in a Kibbutz"

THE key to the role of agricultural settlement in Israel's socialist evolution lies, more than any other facet of that evolution, in the peculiar realm of Zionist socialism as differentiated from socialism in general. It is the relative normalization of the Labour movement in Israel in recent years and its consequent assumption of much of the logic which characterizes labour movements elsewhere which has engendered a spiritual crisis in the labour settlements.

The *hityashvut ha'ovedet* was the unique resultant of a number of different directional forces in Zionist history which converged and combined in the first decades of the century. Practical Zionist policy included agricultural colonization and the creation of a Jewish farming population as its keystone.

It seems apparent that although agricultural settlement is still of prime importance to the country for its own sake and although it still fulfils many other tasks as well — security for example as recent events have again taught us — it is no longer the only incarnation of Zionist pioneering. The state, to be successful, is in need of a cadre of permanent full-time intelligentsia. For its economic health it needs rapid, large-scale industrialization. It needs a high quality professional army. It needs a practical programme for the absorption and integration on an equal basis with the older inhabitants of huge numbers of new immigrants — immigrants whose cultural background makes such integration problematical. The distillation of the movement of Jewish national rebirth is no longer the *kibbutz*, the *moshav*, the Histadrut nor even the organized Zionist movement — despite their importance. In a sense it is the government of the state of Israel itself.

The *hityashvut*, partly because of its past, partly due to the times — and this, indeed, has been one of the principles of its organization.

There are many who fear, however, and in the opinion of this writer, justifiably, that the movement, since the establishment of the state, has lost much of its ability to respond, in Martin Buber's sense of the word — direct personal response to moral challenge — which is so essential to its character. To recapture its position at the heart of the Zionist renascence and to retain the loyalty of its own thinking membership the movement must make an effort to meet the new problems of Israel reality. The *moshav* movement — in the *moshav olim* — is making a determined effort to adjust to the mentality of the new immigrant.

The *kibbutz*, inherently less elastic in this respect, is nevertheless continuing to mobilize its personnel for work with youth movements, new immigrants and general Zionist service. The second generation has volunteered for work in the new settlements. Thought is being given to the higher education of children in the settlements — to enable them to take their place in a society which is perforce placing an ever greater premium on technical knowledge. The settlement of new areas is continuing and the current military situation again accents the importance of such settlement. Both the *kibbutz* and the *moshav* are experimenting with administrative farming. But the process of reorientation has a long way to go.

In common with the great majority of the older inhabitants the *hityashvut* has not established contact with the new Israel working community. The contact which it has created has been either an employer-employee relationship or at best on a social worker-object-for-case-work basis. The issues which it is concerned with (whether, for instance, to build a regional *kibbutz* high school "open" to children of the new *moshavim*, and villages in the area or not — a debate connected with the "purity" of communal education) are sometimes stratospheric in terms of the real problems facing the new immigration.

Overcoming the danger of Israel losing a great deal of its moral alertness depends on the existence of a certain kind of social climate; the kind of climate which will make it clear, for example, to some of our civil servants and managers as well as to aspirants to these positions that it is their duty to reflect the social character of the country and that they are not its sole creators.

The Histadrut and the country as a whole, one feels, could use the moral force of a revitalized *hityashvut*, in the re-emphasis of the importance of Israel being a certain, special kind of Israel.

A Social Achievement

The cooperative and collective agricultural settlements are in themselves a great social achievement, though many problems of internal social organization still remain — and many always will. The mechanics of equality in all its facets; the assurance of equality of consumption, the lack, often, of equality of effort, the problem of members' connections with wealth outside *kibbutz*, the social distribution of leadership — all these are still being debated. The validity of certain aspects of the communal education system is open to question. Cultural patterns are still incomplete and in the process of evolution. The accounting system and its underlying ideological implication based on what may be an outmoded approach to what constitutes value needs rediscussion. The problem of hired labour remains a burning issue despite repeated fiery decisions to eliminate it. The degree of personal privacy obtainable in the *kibbutz* is still a cause for concern among many members.

Notwithstanding these problems, however, it seems clear that the *hityashvut ha'ovedet* has graduated from the class of social experiment exotically described in the sociology texts. It is a movement of significant absolute proportions which, within its frames of reference, has achieved an optimum, though admittedly not perfect, degree of social justice. This has been accomplished without a previously set blueprint. It has developed non-dogmatically in line with the needs of the pioneering tasks which it still fulfils and partly as a result of the superior and dedicated people whom it has attracted over the years, still plays a role in the movement altogether out of proportion to its numbers. But other, sectional, interests, however, have begun to assert bids for leadership. The opinion of the city trade unionist concerning what is good for the country can be decidedly different from that of the *kibbutznik* and so can that of the academician. Freed of the self-imposed discipline of a state-in-the-making they are all capable of reverting to the normalcy of labour movements everywhere — and leaving responsibility for the general conduct of affairs to the government. Proof of this in recent history is not hard to find, even when the government itself is dominated by labour. Moreover, many a member of the *hityashvut*, never much of a farmer to begin with, is attracted to the other side of the fence.



In a new immigrant *moshav*: tending the flock of geese

Integrating the Arab Workers

By Eliahu Agassi
Histadrut Arab Department

OF 180,000 Arabs living in Israel, the great majority are engaged in agriculture, and some 70 per cent are either farm labourers or small peasants. In the towns, too, the majority of Israel Arabs are artisans. The structure of the Israel-Arab community has changed considerably since pre-State days; the great extremes of wealth and poverty are largely gone, and the majority are now workers and peasants, who naturally come into the Histadrut sphere of interest.

The integration of the Arab workers into the general working community has its importance from a purely labour point of view, but it is even more important politically. The economic position of the Arab workers and their sense of equality with their fellow workers has its effect on the rate of integration of the Arab community as a whole into the State of Israel.

This process of integration raises a number of social and cultural problems, which in many ways resemble those connected with the new *olim*. Whereas the new immigrants, however, have no alternative save to adapt themselves to the new conditions, and besides have a desire so to adapt themselves, the Arab population who have remained in their villages continue to be deeply rooted in traditional forms of life and ways of thought, which make the entry of fresh ideas difficult.

For instance, the Arab agricultural worker, however poor his position, is still far from recognizing the need to organize and demands the same high wages already achieved by the Jewish fellow worker. The staff of Arab Labour Exchanges do not regard the establishment of organized labour among the Arabs as a primary duty. There is a characteristic tendency to demand from others, to accept from others, without any readiness to make demands from oneself in return or to carry responsibilities and duties. This attitude combines with a frame of mind of opposition to the State which increases the resistance to the social concepts prevalent in Israel. It is obvious that the negative attitude to the State fomented by the Communist Party helps these feelings to persist.

In this situation, the Histadrut is endeavouring to organize the Arab workers and peasants, to raise their standard of living and to encourage them to greater activity for self-help. Since the Histadrut decided to admit Arabs to its unions and welfare institutions, there has been a steady drive to increase Arab membership of the unions and to secure the national rates of pay for Arab workers. Thanks to these efforts, thousands of Arab workers have improved their position and escaped from a truly shocking degree of exploitation by their employers. As a rule, Arabs employed by Jewish institutions and by most private Jewish employers are paid the full rates due to them, and gradual progress is being made among workers of Arab employers, although the opposition here is much stiffer. Membership in the trade unions of the Histadrut automatically secures the right to services of Kupat Holim and other welfare institutions. In the towns where both Arab and Jewish communities are found, Arab workers attend the regular Kupat Holim clinics, but in addition Kupat Holim has opened five dispensaries in purely Arab areas.

The other Histadrut mutual-aid institutions the disability fund, Mishan, etc., are also open to Arab workers. As a result of membership in insurance funds, such as the building workers fund, Arab workers are sure of receiving benefits such as paid annual holidays, and for the last two years groups of Arab workers have been taking their holiday at Histadrut rest homes.

System of Land Tenure

In agriculture, organization of workers cannot follow the usual trade union lines, because under the prevalent system of land tenure and the complicated family relationships the status of employer and worker are not clearly defined.

The Histadrut has therefore concentrated on economic development on cooperative lines, for the benefit of the small and middling farmers who in this way gradually liberate themselves from their dependence on big landowners and money-lenders. With this end in view the Histadrut established the Arab Workers' and Peasants' Fund with a registered capital of IL100,000. The Fund succeeded in mobilizing about IL250,000 from Government and other sources, and for the first time succeeded in securing participation of the Arabs themselves in a fund for their own communal development. Its undertakings include producer and consumer societies, agricultural marketing cooperatives, water works for irrigation and drinking purposes, as well as credit institutions. These programmes, together with general prosperity, have changed the Arab villages in many ways.

The number of agricultural workers earning money wages has increased steadily against the number depending on a share of the crops—a system very prevalent until the end of the Mandate. The daily wage of Arab agricultural workers is rising steadily and has increased since 1947 by between 50 and 200 per cent. The traditional hours of work, from "sunrise to sunset," no longer apply in the Arab villages of Israel. Arab agricultural produce enjoys a producers' market and fetches good prices. As a result, the Arab landowner is paying attention to large areas of land previously neglected by him for various reasons, and is showing a growing interest in new methods of cultivation, systematic rotation of crops, improved plant strains and animal stock, irrigation and so on. In 1949 the income received for all Arab farm produce was estimated at IL3m., while for 1954 it was estimated at IL60m., a very significant increase even allowing for changes in the value of money. The wheat yield per dunam has risen from 50 kg. to between 100 and 200 kg. The area under tobacco has increased eight-fold and that under vegetables four-fold. The irrigated area has expanded fourteen-fold.

In Jaffa, Ramle, Haifa and Acre, as well as in Nazareth and in 17 Arab villages, the Histadrut has opened cultural centres. These centres are also in touch with the population of many other settlements in their vicinity, so that their work covers a population of 125,000 people or two-thirds of the Israel-Arab community. These centres organize cultural and sporting activities: evening classes are held in Hebrew and Arabic, and lectures on various topics are arranged, especially during the slack seasons of the agricultural year. One of the most popular subjects for lectures to Arab audiences is the National Insurance Plan, as the Arab workers are eager to know just what their rights are under Israel legislation.

A number of the football teams associated with these centres have achieved a high standard of play. The Nazareth Centre also has a library, music groups, singing and games sections. There is also a musical circle in Acre, with an Oriental orchestra of very high standard.

A special section for activities among Arab women has been founded by the Histadrut and the Moetset Hapoalot. It maintains five centres, three of which have been started during the past year. In these centres courses are conducted in sewing and embroidery, Hebrew and Arabic, and a highly varied range of cultural activities. There is particular significance to this work among Moslem and Druse women who, for reasons of tradition and piety, have hitherto refrained from taking any part in public life. Dozens of them are now participating in the activities of these centres, which must be regarded as a step towards the emancipation of the Oriental woman.

Life in an Immigrant Village

By Gerda Cohen

THE wife and daughters of Chamoun Cohen were all squatting on the floor enveloped in their scarlet plaid "togas," crocheting blouses of wonderful intricacy. The old aunt rubbed grains of couscous for dinner, and grandma shoved a wooden tray of pitta loaves into the clay oven outside. Everything was tranquil, children at school, father at work, the little twins in the kindergarten. The family had come direct from the ship to Eytan, three months ago. Eytan is one of 17 new villages strung across the rolling plain from Migdal Ashkelon to Beit Jubrin. At first, each village had borne a number: Lachish five, Lachish twelve, representing merely a collection of shacks dotting the green treeless expanse. But the invisible blueprint was there, dictating the final shape of Hevel Lachish, a whole region, even from its first truckload of settlers.

Chamoun and Sara Cohen take all for granted: they have a cloudy notion that various bodies organize Eytan, providing or not providing work, inoculating the baby against smallpox, and giving hot lunches at school. Illiterate, they have no inkling of the difference between government and trade union, and it will be a long time before they understand the connection between their Kupat Holim nurse and the store run by Hamashbir Latzarhan. Without realizing it, Chamoun is as much a part of the working community as a Histadrut official who contributes to symposiums on Saturday mornings. Chamoun and his eldest son earn IL7.200 a day, gross, helping to build their own house; agricultural work brings in only IL4.600 a day. Solel Boneh is the contractor for Hevel Lachish, and for Dimona, microcosm of a town on the highway to Sdom. No other contractor commanded reserves of manpower and credit to take on such an operation.

Opposite Eytan, piles of gravel and sand encircled a few huts where an engineer was poring over maps. This will be the rural centre for Eytan, Shalva — you can see it to the east — Uza, and Noam, behind the hills. "Every four or five villages together has a centre," explained the engineer, "with a clinic, a school for the older children, shops, a tractor station and garage." Solel Boneh allotted the erection of each group of villages to a different branch. Ramat Gan branch, for example, undertook to construct Eytan, Noam, and their rural centre. About twenty skilled workmen from Ramat Gan have set up camp there, going home for week-ends. The discomfort is compensated by a bonus for jobs away, bringing their daily wage to upward of IL14. They eat in a canteen set up to serve all the outside employees — a force 70 strong. In addition, 80 villagers supply the unskilled labour.

"We'll be the first to move into houses," said the teacher at Eytan. Elsewhere in Hevel Lachish, concrete blocks are turning into homes at an unbelievable rate. Compared with the one-room shells of earlier immigrant villages, housing appeared positively luxurious: two big rooms, a kitchen, shower and inside toilet. The windows have painted frames; plaster neatly covers the walls which are already wired for current. "As you get the same size house whether you have nine kids or none, all the young men have begun to hunt for wives," laughed the teacher, she herself glad to get a room with a shower. (For lack of a stable, the village makes corrupt the public bath-house, although they don't trespass on the ritual bath reserved for the matrons of Eytan.)

The school, store, office, clinic and club-room will shortly transfer from huts to an H-shaped block on the brow of a slope where a eucalyptus grove has just been planted. The houses make a wide circle around, unlike the standard pattern of a long line, big gaps between each farmstead, hard to patrol at night. Although Kupat Holim and Hamashbir automatically placed a clinic and store in each settlement it was not easy to give adequate service. For a time, septuagenarian nurses volunteered to keep the clinic open until younger ones appeared. Some villages went without medical care at all. Now a doctor from Noga village visits twice weekly. The area's hospital has been planned for Kiryat Gat, future cotton-town of the Negev — now just heaps of cement and scaffolding. Until it comes into existence patients must travel to the Kaplan hospital near Rehovot. "Half our babies get born in the tender on the way," noted the social worker.

Rain has turned the approach-track into a mud-flat, preventing trucks from delivering food in bad weather. The small-scale representative of Hamashbir often had bare shelves, no fruit for a week. Mrs. Chamoun Cohen and her Tunisian relatives did not mind very much: they could buy onions for soup, oil and tapioca for *couscous*u. Mint indispensable for their rich black tea, grew in the garden anyway. In fact, only the school-kitchen suffered and the children, denied oranges at lunch, got no vitamin C. "My store isn't perfect," admitted the shopkeeper, "but without Hamashbir they'd have nothing."

New Union Patterns in Israel

By Herzl Berger M.K.

NO visitor to Israel, who makes even a cursory survey of its labour movement, can fail to be struck by the considerable difference between this labour organization and workers' organizations abroad. This difference is expressed not only in the fact that the proportion of hired workers organized in Israel is extremely high and much higher than that in any free democratic country. It is not limited either to the fact that in Israel the proportion of organized agricultural workers is no lower and even rather higher than the rate of organization in the towns, although this too is without parallel in any industrial country, of either East or West.

Finally the difference cannot be expressed fully in terms of the different structural pattern; in almost every country, where labour movements exist, the basis of the movement lies with the individual union, whether craft or industrial, local or national; the over-all labour movement is merely a federation of these separate unions which delegate to the central body more or less of their autonomous powers. In Israel, on the other hand, the basis of the structure, and the seat of authority of the labour movement is the General Federation, and the trade unions are merely subdivisions of the general body.

How Unions Started

While elsewhere the particular unions usually existed before the General Federation, most unions in Israel have been started by the Histadrut. The worker gains membership of the union by virtue of his membership of the Histadrut, and all the powers which the unions possess are delegated to them by the General Federation. To some extent, the organisations of professional workers form an exception to this rule, as they joined the Histadrut as a body after leading an independent existence; but this exception only proves the rule.

The main and fundamental distinction between the Histadrut and other labour organizations lies, however, in the extent and scope of its activities and responsibilities, and their mutual interaction. There is no parallel organization of this comprehensive nature. The General Federation of Labour in Israel is a trade union movement which unites an extraordinarily high percentage of all the workers; an association of cooperative members in agriculture, industry, trades and services; a form of public ownership of economic enterprises and public services; and a network of social welfare and health institutions. Having said all this, one has still not exhausted the scope of Histadrut activity.

It was thus a necessity which impelled the Histadrut to become an entrepreneur initiating and establishing economic enterprises, parallel with its regular work as a trade union protecting the workers in existing places of employment. It was also necessity which led many groups of workers to set up their own independent cooperatives, agricultural or industrial. The agricultural settlements founded in this way were composed entirely of Histadrut members and they thus represented a social organism devoted entirely to Histadrut principles and the realization of Histadrut ideals.

So the Histadrut also became the creator of new social forms; these communities, while forming part of the new Jewish community, which was rapidly developing, enjoyed an unusual degree of autonomy in moulding the structure of their society and in administering their internal affairs. The Mandatory Government aimed principally at meeting the requirements of the population already living in the country, of which the majority were Arabs who, on the whole, lived on a much more primitive level than the Jewish section and had a much lower standard of social services.

Demands on Yishuv

The Jewish population was therefore compelled to take care of itself in many aspects of social life; this, indeed, made considerable demands both on the *Yishuv* and on the Zionist movement. But as already indicated it left scope for considerable autonomy in shaping the social character of the Jewish community. Every section of this community could conduct its social life in the way it chose. Thus the necessities brought with them also unusual opportunities which were not open to labour movements anywhere else. The social concepts and ideals of labour movements elsewhere could be realized only by a more or less revolutionary change of existing social and economic forms; here, they could be realized by the creation of new economic and social entities.

So it came about that the Jewish labour movement fulfilled functions of a national order in developing social features which in an industrial society are taken for granted: for instance the development of a labour code and definition of the relationships between workers and employers.

Another very important field of Histadrut activity is its welfare institutions, especially Kupat Holim, which works on a scale comparable to that of state institutions in many other countries.

When Israel became independent, the question arose whether these institutions should pass under the jurisdiction of the State. This discussion is not entirely objective and is influenced by numerous political and opportunistic considerations. Among the advocates of nationalization of Kupat Holim and other Histadrut welfare institutions, there are many who in every other sphere of economic and social affairs, are the most extreme supporters of private enterprise, and the fiercest opponents of the nationalization of industry, services and distribution. When people with these political opinions call for the transfer of the Histadrut's institutions to the State, one is justified in assuming that they do so because they regard the welfare activities of the labour movement as a main factor in the spectacular increase of Histadrut membership in recent years and the high proportion of organized labour in Israel. They think that the transfer of these activities from the control of the Histadrut to the State would weaken Histadrut influence. An objective study of the problem must take into account the fact that in countries which have introduced state-controlled social insurance, doubts have arisen as to the wisdom of this policy. In those countries, it has been widely suggested that the social insurance institutions would benefit from a greater degree of decentralization and autonomy than they have under direct state control. It is quite possible that even in their present framework the welfare institutions of the Histadrut require, not more centralization and bureaucratic control, but decentralization and constant efforts to increase the active participation of the members in the running of the services; that is, a more effective practical expression of democratic management.

It would seem that in this area of welfare institutions, we stand before a dialectical development. A demand for the nationalization of the Histadrut's voluntary system of insurance has already been made; should it be carried out, we should presumably be faced very soon with a new demand for a transfer of part of the powers of the State to the insured themselves. A forward-looking policy must seek a synthesis which would avoid the disturbance involved in a two-fold transfer of control, first to the State and then from the State to the insured population.

A similar problem presents itself in regard to the economic activities of the labour movement. The economy of many countries is now in a state of transition from a basis of private enterprise to one of public control. In most cases, this change comes about through nationalization and the transfer of existing enterprises and industries into the hands of the State. Both in those cases where nationalization has been complete, as in the countries of the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia, and in countries like Great Britain and others, where only partial nationalization has occurred, grave and complex problems have arisen in the process of implementing nationalization.

Public Sector

In Israel, the case is quite different from anywhere else. Here, the public sector of the economy has not developed either as a result of nationalization or on the initiative of the authorities, but by the free initiative of the working community. The necessity of developing an economy able to absorb immigrants and to carry through the settlement of new areas, and the great social opportunities which this necessity conferred, have led to the fact that not only private enterprises but also the public sector have been created as a result of free initiative whether of groups or individuals. Groups of workers have chosen the social and economic form which most appealed to them, and so we have in Israel an unusual variety of forms of public ownership. There is a large cooperative sector which is owned by the workers employed in it; and even within these cooperatives there are wide differences of social form and organization. There is a sector belonging to the Histadrut as a whole, as well as transitional forms between Histadrut and cooperative ownership. And there are various types of cooperation between Histadrut and private capital.

The State-owned sector is gradually increasing, mainly by the establishment of new enterprises, but in a few cases by the purchase of shares in existing enterprises (this occurred in a few large plants of outstanding importance, such as the Electricity Corporation and the Potash Works). This State-controlled economy exists side by side with a variety of other forms of public ownership controlled by a large public body, the Histadrut, or by the producers or consumers. The unique conditions in the development of the public sector in Israel have thus brought about a great variety of economic types, and a separation between political power and economic power—the very things for which many countries are striving in their efforts to combine economic development and democratic processes.



Immigrant Workers in a New Moshav in the Jerusalem Corridor.

The Vision of the People

By DAVID BEN-GURION

Where there is no vision, the people perish — and it is just because of the greatness of the every-day, purpose, and the heaviness of our load, that it is our duty to kindle the flame of the vision and imbue our every act with its spirit. Only by holding the vision close will we chart our course through the mounting billows of this strife-ridden age. . .

And the vision will come to pass if there comes to pass also a partnership, full, faithful and enduring, between the State and its pioneers. For only by the power of the State is it possible to transform their vision into an all-embracing and dominant reality, and only by the revelation and exuberance of the pioneering potential of the youth volunteering loyally for all the duties and purposes of the State, will Israel fulfil her mission and bring true the vision of the past days.

We cannot be true to ourselves unless we take heed of the great moral legacy bequeathed to us by our Prophets and sages and teachers of old. In the great labour venture which is in progress in Israel and, first and foremost in labour settlements, there is embodied the vision of the brotherhood of man, social justice and the freedom of creative humanity.

. . . . . Against the vistas opening out to us in the newly founded State, we need a colonization which will embrace agriculture and industry, fishery and shipping, communications by land and communications by air, and civilians and soldiers, that will flourish on toil and sweat as well as on scientific attainments and cultural values. All this will not be beyond our grasp if youth will not shrink from valiant pioneering but march on, with heart courageous, to make the vision real.

From The Israel Year Book; 1952.

Building a Rural Economy

By Ya'acov Reich
of the Agricultural Workers' Organization

ALL of us would like to see more of our population earn its living in agriculture, but the hired agricultural worker does not have such an easy time of it. Hired agricultural workers fall into two categories. One consists of the 12,000 skilled men and foremen in various aspects of farming, who hold regular jobs, draw regular wages and are practically all organized in the Histadrut's Agricultural Workers' Organization. But in addition there are some 40,000 men and women who for periods ranging from a few days to perhaps 240 days a year, are employed on seasonal work in agriculture. The personal card index at the offices of the Agricultural Workers' Insurance Fund faithfully records each member's annual working history.

Agricultural workers have not yet reached the level of conditions in other callings. But since the establishment of the State things have improved a good deal. In 1948 the Hired Agricultural Workers' Organization was formed within the general organization of agricultural workers, to deal with the needs of a group which at that time was poorly paid, had no rights to paid holidays or other benefits or security against dismissal.

Progress has been made since then, but the difficulties are not yet over. With large public employers such as Yakhin-Hakal, Yitzur Uffituah, Rassco, Mehadrin, Pardess Syndicate, Hanera, and others, the problem is simpler.

But there are many private employers who prefer to negotiate with workers directly rather than through the union, and who form one of the groups most strongly opposed to the Histadrut in the country. Often the union does not even know of the existence of such workers, and hence this sector constitutes a breach in the wall of organized labour. Obviously, workers taken on in this unorganized way are usually underpaid, and payments on their behalf to the Insurance Fund are evaded.

Labour Demand Is No Longer Seasonal

The Hired Agricultural Workers' Organization has signed agreements with practically all the public and semi-public institutions active in agriculture, and also with many private farmers. A concerted effort is now being made to conclude an agreement covering all members of the union. We regard this as vital to the well-being of agricultural labour.

In the past, our most serious problem was the slack season in farming, when neither fields, groves nor vineyards needed working hands. This slack season naturally shook the security of the workers, who did their best to change to year-round employment. In recent years large-scale measures have been taken to solve this problem.

Together with the introduction of new crops, joint efforts have been made by the Ministry of Labour, the Agricultural Centre and the labour exchanges to solve transport and organizational difficulties, and it has now become possible to ensure greater continuity of work, the working season of one crop dovetailing into the season of the next. Thus the picking of cotton and groundnuts comes round at a time which was formerly the dead season between summer work and citrus picking.

The instrument for securing agricultural workers these various benefits is the Agricultural Workers' Insurance Fund. Into this Fund the employer pays a sum equivalent to 10 per cent of wages on behalf of each worker; and the worker himself contributes 2.5 per cent of his wages. From these sums the Fund pays the workers holiday money, sick pay, something towards the cost of an annual holiday, and also saves a proportion in its provident fund, which the worker can draw on retirement or on leaving the Insurance Fund.

Regularly employed agricultural workers now have the same type of job security as other workers, can only be dismissed on adequate grounds, and are entitled to compensation on dismissal. The advantage of this fund is that workers who change their place of employment do not lose any of the benefits to which they are entitled. The Insurance

(Continued on p. 16)

Israel Worker and I.L.O.

By C. Hart Schaaf

ONE of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations has a particular concern for organised workers in Israel — the International Labour Organization. Not only does it deal with what can be described as union problems; it is the only international body at this level on which the workers have their own separate representation.

Representation on the ILO is in fact tripartite. Each member territory sends three delegations to the conferences in Geneva. One represents the government, one the employers, and one the workers. But there is an important difference between the government delegation and the other two groups. The representatives of the Israel government stand alone. They may vote together with certain other governments on particular issues; but they vote for and on behalf of the Israel government.

The workers' delegates on the other hand vote on behalf of the *world's* workers (and the employers similarly represent the world's employers). Thus an Israel workers' delegate will argue a case as the Israel workers see it — but only inside the Workers' Group, who sit apart, and whose members are busied with proceedings that are confidential and in which their respective governments have no say. Once the Workers' Group has come to a decision, that decision is brought before the plenum of the conference as the decision of the Workers' Group as a whole, and is expressed by a single spokesman speaking on behalf of the whole group — speaking on behalf, in fact, of the world's workers.

This set-up was probably not uncongenial to the Histadrut when Israel became a member of the ILO in 1949; for it is my impression that the Histadrut is accustomed to reaching its own decisions separately from the government, and is quite in the habit of presenting the workers' case without fear or favour. In addition, the procedural and conceptual necessity to identify its own decisions with those of the world's organized workers was not difficult. The explanation is that the Histadrut has a long tradition of free, independent action; and has achieved, independently of the government, and even before there was an Israel government, a very great deal in raising labour standards in Israel to their present high level.

Accordingly, when the Workers' Group in Geneva wanted to make the Convention on Annual Holidays with Pay require twelve working days of leave a year instead of six, Israel's workers were able to support this demand in the knowledge that they have achieved it in their own country, to the point that it was introduced in their national legislation as the Law on Hours of Work and Rest. Similarly Israel is one of the minority of countries that has been able to ratify the Social Security Convention; and I understand that she was the first member-territory to ratify the ILO's Convention on Annual Holidays with Pay for Agricultural Workers. These achievements, in my opinion, stand also to the credit of the country's employers who must be reckoned among the more progressive entrepreneurs in the world on matters of social and labour standards.

It is pleasant to be aware, and able to report in this article, that the prestige of the Histadrut in the Workers' Group of the ILO stands high. Workers' delegates to Geneva in principle are drawn from the most representative labour organization in each country. In not many countries does the leading labour organization have on its membership so large a proportion of the country's workers as the Histadrut. The election of Mr. Aaron Becker as Deputy Member of the ILO's Governing Body is certainly a recognition of the work accomplished by the Histadrut over the 35 years of its existence, on behalf of Israel's labourers, and hence indirectly on behalf of the world's labourers. Representatives of this country's government, employers and workers attended last year for the first time a conference of the Chemical Industries Committee of the ILO, and a conference of the Textiles Committee. This year Israel is to be represented, likewise for the first time, on the Building and Public Works Committee. It is probable that Israel could, through the ILO and its various committees, take an increasing share in aiding other countries less advanced in matters such as labour organizations, consumers' cooperatives, workers' housing, and vocational training.

A word about a subject which is of particular interest to me personally — technical assistance. All Israel's requests for technical assistance come to the ILO and the other agencies of the United Nations through the Israel government. That does not mean that the government is always their original source. In many cases the source is a joint one: for example, much aid has been given to Israel by the ILO in the field of productivity, and the Institute of Productivity is a body whose board of directors is drawn from the government, the Manufacturers' Association, the Histadrut, and the Association of Engineers and Architects. ILO experts in Israel in the field of productivity are very cognizant of the vital role played by the Histadrut as one of the participants, both in acquiring and utilising their services.

An Active Share

Sometimes the request for a technical assistance project comes originally from the Histadrut and, if approved by the Ministry of Labour, is submitted to the United Nations Technical Assistance Board as part of their programme. The Histadrut has had, naturally enough, a particularly active share in the worker-trainee projects; though again the cooperation of the employers and of the Vocational Training Division in the Labour Ministry is cardinal. About two dozen Israel worker-trainees so far have spent periods of on-the-job study at factories in Sweden, Switzerland, and elsewhere. Another eighteen are billed to go in the near future. Some of them work for Histadrut enterprises; all of them are briefed and assisted by the Histadrut. And perhaps the most important contribution is the positive attitude of the Histadrut, on the subsequent return of the worker-trainees, towards applying what they have learned for improving methods, using machinery more effectively, and raising output per worker.

Israel's participation, not only in the technical assistance programme of the United Nations, the ILO, and the other Specialized Agencies, but also in many other forms of United Nations economic, social, and other cooperative work, means that with the achievement of sovereignty, she also became a responsible, cooperative, international good citizen. To this welcome development the Histadrut has contributed a great deal.

Dr. Schaaf has served since October 1, 1954 as Resident Representative in Israel of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board. The views expressed in this article, however, are his own, and do not necessarily represent official attitudes of the U.N. or the ILO.

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Some of the recently published books — **Gidul Hagefen** (Vineyard Cultivation) by N. Hochberg, who won the "Israel Award;" **Gidulei Sadeh** (Field Cultivation) by L. Arnon; **Gidulei Atzei Fri Subtropim** (Subtropical Fruit Trees) by Prof. H. Oppenheimer, and a series of text books on agriculture for elementary schools.

To be published shortly: **Yediat Hakarka** (Soil Studies) by D. Lachover; **Gidul Atzei Hadar** (Cultivation of Citrus Fruit Trees) by Prof. H. Oppenheimer, etc.

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Jerusalem Workers Go to School

By Eugen E. Mayer
Jerusalem Post Literary Editor

IN a small, modestly furnished room, a cubicle rather, on the top floor of the Histadrut building in Jerusalem, Mr. Mordechai Menahem explains the cultural work of his Labour Council, with the quiet competence of a man who has all the facts at his fingertips. Now and again, people come in with sundry requests which he settles patiently and efficiently, without in the least being affected by the interruption.

Education and entertainment are the two main targets of a wide range of activities. Just as man does not live by bread alone, so can a trade union not subsist on wage disputes only. This basic truth has always been recognized by the Histadrut and its forerunners of half a century ago. The programme, of course, has changed in the course of time, and today the accent is on Hebrew. Realising that, together with history and territory, language is a forceful formative factor in the process of forging the returning tribes of Israel into a united nation, the Histadrut has made it one of its principal tasks to acquaint thousands of newcomers among the working population with Hebrew speech, writing and reading, to make them "inherit," as the Hebrew slogan says, the idiom of their people.

Accent on Hebrew

No less than 55 evening classes, with an average attendance of 20 adults and a staff of 40 teachers, serve this purpose. The students pay a nominal fee, and it takes them one or two years to complete the course, attending from two to 10 lessons a week, according to their spare time. The Council, whose cultural budget totals IL10,000 a month, spends IL3,000 for these courses alone, the Ministry of Education contributing 70 per cent towards the cost of tuition.

More closely related to the immediate purposes of the Union is the "Evening School for Workers," which aims at providing that general education which is not only desirable in itself, but enables the worker to gain a fuller understanding of his position in the social fabric of the country. This school is attended by about 200 men and women and has a syllabus roughly corresponding to that of an elementary school. The tuition fee varies from one to two pounds a month and is somewhat higher for English lessons and other special subjects. On completion of the three-year course, workers may continue their studies in Secondary Evening School.

A more recent and particularly interesting venture are special courses for the study of the Bible and Hebrew literature. Established in collaboration with the "Working Mothers," these courses consist of 12 groups, each attended by 25-30 women workers of all ages. One of the groups meets regularly at the home of Mrs. Rahel Ben-Zvi, wife of the President.

Workers' Clubs and Libraries

Spread over the whole area of Greater Jerusalem, from Talpiot to Ein Kerem and Kiryat HaYovel, 12 clubs are open every evening to new immigrants and veteran workers. There they find a quiet corner where they can read newspapers and books, have a game of chess, or listen to a talk on topical subjects. Attendance is largest on Shabbat, when visitors are treated to a programme of lectures, artistic performances, and communal singing. Younger workers too come on these evenings, but in general cultural activities among the younger generation are in the hands of the various youth movements.

One of the most successful parts of the Council's work is the central library on Jaffa Road, with branches in the German Colony and Kiryat HaYovel. The library has a stock of some 30,000 volumes, and about one thousand books are exchanged every month. A deposit of IL2 is required, and the monthly fee is 400 pruta for Histadrut members and 800 pruta for others.

Success of Hebrew Paperbacks

Hebrew books are normally so expensive that a new attempt to provide good and cheap editions is particularly welcome. Not long ago, the Cultural Centre of the Histadrut Executive, jointly with the Labour Council, introduced Hebrew pocket books, published by "Am Oved." Open to subscribers only, this new series supplies both original works and translations, at the rate of 10 titles a year, at the low price of 500 pruta per volume.

In Jerusalem alone, about 1,500 of these cheap books are distributed every month, and the demand for them is steadily growing. For the guidance of readers, a leaflet is supplied in which the latest additions, such as the collected stories of H. Hazaz, the reminiscences of the Second Aliya by J. Avidov, of Nahalal, or "the other America" of "My Antonia" by Willa Cather, are intelligently introduced in a few lines.

Arts and Entertainment

This somewhat heavy fare is supplemented by a series of activities which Mr. Menahem at first described, with a whimsical smile, as "Kosmetika," though he made it clear immediately that there was no suggestion of anything frivolous about it. Yet, it seemed a happy idea to talk of cultural "cosmetics" rather than use the more austere official name of "Special Activities." They include, every Friday evening at the Tel Or hall, plays and folk dances, meetings with young writers and poets, a choir of 50 members, a ballet group, and an orchestra of wind instruments.

The great demand for good music is satisfied by an arrangement with the Philharmonic Orchestra (first suggested by the late Bronislaw Huberman) under which workers receive 500 subscription tickets with a 30 per cent reduction. Before every concert, an informative talk is given about the composers and the programme. A similar arrangement, on an even larger scale, has been made with the three theatres.

Social contacts, too, are promoted by monthly meetings of the various sections of the Union, where members and their wives are entertained to a programme, usually consisting of a topical talk and an artistic programme. Attendance at these social evenings, where light refreshments are served, averages 200 members.

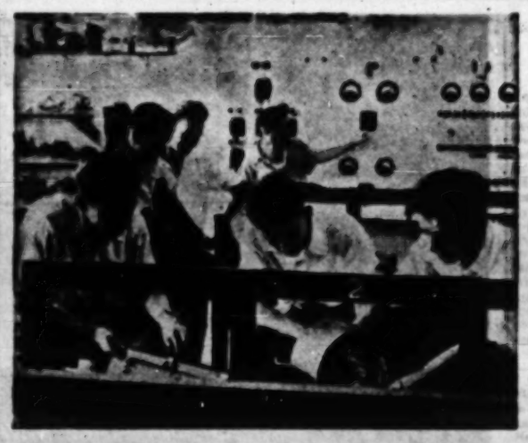
One of the most popular attractions are the periodic guided excursions throughout the country, with visits to newly established industrial plants. The Council, which pays 70 per cent of the expenses, arranges about 25 such excursions every year, with an average of 100 participants.

Civic Education

To return to more professional aspects of the educational programme, it should be mentioned that the Labour Council sends every now and then, at its own expense, from 40 to 50 members of a specific trade to a 36-hour week-end course at the School for Histadrut Employees in Tel Aviv, where they are given six lectures on political and economic subjects.

Other features of a similar kind are lunch-time talks at larger places of work, where the lecturer explains the news "behind the headlines"; and every two or three weeks noted experts are invited to address a gathering of usually more than 200 on such topics as atomic energy, mineral resources, or strategic problems.

Great credit must be given to the Jerusalem Labour Council for the scope and variety of this work. It is without any doubt a major contribution towards cultural integration of the working classes and compares favourably with anything achieved in this field in the most advanced countries.



Vocational Training: to improve the efficiency of skilled workers and train the unskilled.

CULTURE FOR 80,000

By Paul Kohn
Jerusalem Post Reporter

WHEN in 1920, the "Histadrut Family"—as it was then called—was founded with 4,000 members, its primary object was to turn the city Jew into a labourer and farmer in this country. Many thought it superfluous at that time to establish a "Cultural Centre" to take care of "the family's" cultural development, but it was done, and that foresight has since paid off.

Today, the Cultural Centre of the Histadrut has a vitally important job to carry out, and in few places is there a Cultural Committee to be found as dynamic as the one in Haifa.

The Haifa Labour Council's cultural activities reach 80,000 paying members and their dependents, who are also Histadrut members. It disseminates culture over an area extending from the Shfar-Am ma'abara to Kiryat Amal and Tirat Hacarmel and in a third of all Haifa's 1,200 places of work, including all of the largest, where 40,000 labourers are employed.

The secret of reaching so many persons is revealed by a glance at the billboards to be found in the streets, in factories, cafes and restaurants, where the Committee displays large notices entitled "This Week in Haifa." They offer a variety of programmes to satisfy all tastes. Some persons might hesitate to call Dzigan and Schumacher's show or "Babor the Robot," culture, but they have their audience, too.

The things the Haifa Histadrut member can decide to enjoy over the week-end include current plays, an evening of song with Yaffa Yarkoni, "Cinderella" by the Israel Puppet Theatre, the "Sabbath Eve Club," a lecture on topical problems by the country's leading experts, and a day's outing. All these are provided at greatly reduced prices.

Morning Lectures

Every Saturday morning during November, for instance, for only 500 prutot, one could listen to Mr. Simcha Blass talk on the water problems of the Middle East, Professor A. Katchalski and a team from the Weizmann Institute give an illustrated lecture on Israel oil, Dr. H. Gamzu tell of his mission in Argentina, where he witnessed the recent revolution, and Mr. Yoel Palgi, of El Al, talk on aviation.

While the worker in the U.K. finds his "culture" at the "Red Lion" or in the grandstands, and his U.S. counterpart in viewing the T.V. screen, the local worker has none of these to draw his interest. Here, there is the temptation to adopt the "work, eat and sleep" attitude to life. Tackling this danger is the job of Mr. Joseph Nir, Head of the Cultural Committee of the H.L.C. and its driving force.

We asked him how he goes about his job. "You must not allow monotony to raise its head," he explained. "I get ideas from a wide variety of sources (and here he produced a travel journal from Wiesbaden, Germany, showing a summer programme for tourists), and I adapt these to my field."

He then showed us the Hebrew Pocket Books, of which the H.L.C. prints 12,000 each month, and sells at 500 prutot each. Books by Hebrew authors outnumber by two to one those translated from other languages. They are excellently bound, and at that price and with a clever choice of authors, capture a large local following.

"I also have to be something of a psychologist," said Mr. Nir, who is a teacher by profession. "The name can make all the difference," he added, indicating the Bible Club, that numbers over 350 members today. Once it was called the "Bible Group," and had 30 adherents. The moment it changed its name, the workers flocked to register.

Four other clubs, the "Economic," "Literature," "Thursday Night" and "Sabbath Eve," number between 150 to [illegible] members each. Space is one of Mr. Nir's biggest headaches, for "Beiteinu," where these clubs hold their lectures and symposiums, seats only 180 persons. Members of the Economic Club include regular visits to industrial plants in their programmes, in order to study their problems at first hand. You can find Communist and Agudat Yisrael party members as fellow "clubmen" and it is said that there they sometimes even find things about which they can agree.

The most popular of the H.L.C. Cultural Committee's activities are the outings it organizes, since they include the whole family. About 1,000 persons set out every week in the bus convoys that leave Haifa for all parts of the country.

When a worker has a claim against his employer, he comes to the Histadrut. To capture his interest in things outside of his work and wages, the Histadrut goes to the worker. In factories, lunch periods are exploited by giving lectures, concerts and film shows. Factory libraries and reading rooms are filled with books—and overall-clad workers.

Before a worker will touch a Hebrew book he has to be taught the language. Teaching him Hebrew is also the first step in integrating the new immigrant and in lifting his cultural level. Four thousand employees learnt Hebrew at their factories last year, and this winter 100 classes have been organized.

A step or two higher in the scale is the "Oranim" School on Mt. Carmel, where evening courses in National and General Economics, Law and Social Sciences, Trade Unionism and Municipal Affairs, will be given. The pupils for these courses are chosen by their employers, and the cost to the student is IL1 per month.

A week each to be devoted to "The Histadrut," "The Author and his Book," "Mozart," and "Spring Festivities" are the major features of Mr. Nir's vigorous programme for the next few months. The "Week of the Author and his Book" will feature a Hebrew Book exhibition, with the 15,000 Hebrew books published since 1948 as its drawing card. Mozart was chosen as the composer for the Week of Music, because it will soon be 200 years since his death. The Labour Council hopes to bring a large Mozart exhibition from Austria. Spring festivities will take place during Pesah week, and three-day outings for 6,000 persons are planned to Eilat or to Upper Galilee.

A new inspiration coming from the sixth-floor office of the Histadrut Building is the idea of bringing the theatre to the factory. Habimah, Ohel and other groups will give evening performances at industrial plants by next spring. The employee will be able to bring his family to the factory to enjoy theatrical performances there at reduced prices.

All these activities are part of the crusade run by the eight men of the H.L.C.'s Cultural Committee to make the 80,000 — "and soon 120,000 in Greater Haifa" says Mr. Nir — feel that they are part of the "Histadrut Family."

Mekorot Means Harvests

By a Special Correspondent

THE Mekorot Water Company is a non-profit public utility for the development of the major irrigation projects in Israel. The present management is made up of representatives of the Jewish Agency, the Jewish National Fund and the Hevrat Ovdim; negotiations are now in progress to secure an adequate representation in the management to the Government.

Mekorot was established in 1936 but until the establishment of the State, the scope of the company's activities was limited: by 1948 it operated a project in the Haifa and Emek areas, a minor project in the Southern Coastal Plain, and (on behalf of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund) the original Negev project based on 6-inch diameter temporary piping. Investments up to 1948 totalled less than IL1m., the supply capacity was about 20 million cubic metres per annum.

Since the establishment of the State, Mekorot has had a spectacular record: irrigation projects have been constructed from Dan to Eilat, the supply capacity of the projects has increased 25 times, investments about 130 times. As a matter of fact, about two-thirds of the irrigated areas added since 1948 drew their water supply from Mekorot projects; Mekorot has thus made the most important contribution to the agricultural development of the State of Israel. The following table is given as an illustration of the company's development throughout the last seven years.

Year	Annual Water Sale in Million Cubic Metres (April 1—March 31)	Cumulative Capital Investment in IL.m.	Annual Income from Water Sales IL.m.
1948	20	1.1	0.15
1949	32	2.5	0.2
1950	50	6.3	0.4
1951	83	11.9	0.9
1952	122	28.5	2.7
1953	147	61.8	4.1
1954	208	94.2	6.2
1955	275	123	8.5
1956 (Forecast)	350	153	12.5

Mekorot's existing irrigation projects and those scheduled to be put into operation during 1956, will have an annual supply capacity nearing 500 million cubic metres—as compared with 20 million cubic metres in 1948. In 1956, Mekorot projects will account for about one half of the country's developed supplies.

Mekorot's staff has increased from a dozen engineers and a few technicians and water-works operators to a total of about 900 (including TAHAL personnel working on planning for Mekorot), out of which about 200 are engineers and technicians. A number of subsidiary organizations were established for specific assignments, including Yuval-Gad for the manufacture of concrete pipes of 20—71 inch diameter (in partnership with Solel Boneh Ltd.), Mifalei-Maim for well drilling (in partnership with other interested organizations), and Heavy Equipment Co. for earth-moving and heavy transport. In addition, Mekorot participated in the establishment of Water Planning for Israel, Ltd. (TAHAL) which acts as Mekorot's planning agency, and of a factory for the manufacture of steel pipes at Barafand.

1955 has been a great year in Mekorot's history; the supply capacity of the company's projects is approaching half a billion cubic metres, the company's water sales have soared to almost 300 MCM, the income from water sales reached IL8.5 million and, perhaps, most important of all the year's events, the Yarkon—Negev project was officially put into operation on July 19, 1955, when the three big pumping stations of the project started sending water from the Yarkon River to the Northern Negev. Furthermore, oil was discovered in a well drilled by a group in which Mekorot has important interests.

The Yarkon—Negev Project (eastern pipe line) is Israel's most important irrigation project: about 100 million cubic metres of Yarkon water will be conveyed through a 66-inch concrete pipe line over a distance exceeding 100 kilometres, from the Yarkon River to the western and central parts of the Northern Negev. Three big pumping stations, with a total installed capacity of almost 30,000 H.P., raise the water to the elevation of the Northern Negev.

A number of major laterals, 36-20 inch diameter, and a number of subsidiary booster stations, have been constructed for the distribution of the Yarkon water throughout the Northern Negev. The most important of these distribution systems serve the Lachish area, the Nirim area, the Mivtahim area, and the Kurnub area.

At the present construction stage, the project yields about 75 million cubic metres per annum; it will reach its full scheduled yield of 160 MCM, when a seasonal storage reservoir of about 8 MCM will be constructed on the southern section of the project.

The Kishon Valley Project will supplement supplies to the coastal area, north of Acre, in the Haifa Bay area and in the Valley of Esdraelon; the ultimate scheduled capacity is about 170 MCM; the present project capacity is 47 MCM.

1955 operations include the most important features of the project, e.g., 25 kms. of the 48-inch main pipe-line, the distribution system to the Taanakh area in the central Emek, subsidiary projects for the water supply of the Acre area, a lateral to the Haifa Bay, etc.

In addition to these two major project groups, Mekorot's operations in 1955 included a number of important regional projects, the most important of which are:

The Beisan Project on which important progress was made.

The Shomron Project in which all major features were completed.

The Ayalon Project including the main pumping stations for the new Jerusalem Water Supply Scheme.

The Ajur Project supplying the new hill settlements in the Judean mountains to the north of the Lachish Area.

Mekorot's 1955 programme included also a number of supplementary operations for the extension of operating irrigation projects in practically all parts of the country. The annual construction budget of the company was about IL30m.; it is estimated that almost 5,000 men were directly and indirectly employed in Mekorot's operations during 1955.

Irrigation development so largely facilitated by Mekorot has played a decisive part in the country's economic expansion during the first seven years of the State's existence; it is hoped that the next seven years will be equally fruitful and will bring the completion of the major irrigation works required for Israel's agricultural development programme. Mekorot's share in this future development will probably be still more important than it has been in the past.

MAKING GOOD AT ALMA

By Yeshayahu Ashni
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WHAT goes on inside those large rectangles of white houses with red-tiled roofs that are called immigrants' settlements?

There's one at Alma, of Talmud fame, occupying a fertile valley near the abandoned Arab village of the same name in the high reaches of Galilee. Altitude: 600 metres; population: 500; affiliation: Hapoel Hamizrahi. The first Jewish settlers came from Tripoli in 1949, led by their learned rabbi, Kamus Sofer. They kissed the ground where so many sages are buried, uttered the traditional blessing: "*Baruch matziv gvul almana*," built houses for themselves and a handsome synagogue in the same style in the centre of the village.

Then there was a rift. Those of the settlers who were better educated, largely former townspeople, left to make their home in another settlement. Their place was taken by the 12 families of converts from San Nicandro in Italy, but the young people among them did not want to remain on the land, and today only two widows from this group are left in Alma. The immigrants from Cochin who arrived in 1954 proved more stable, and the two groups get along well together, but to this day the Cochinese hold prayers on their own, in the clubhouse, claiming that they do not understand the Tripolitanian rite.

Ultimately, each household will dispose of 25 dunams of mixed farming: now, the village supports itself from its 1,000 dunams of olive groves, for the cultivation of which the settlers receive IL5,400 per work-day from the Jewish Agency; from Jewish National Fund reclamation work, which is enlarging Alma's cultivable land; and from the sale of their vegetables, milk, wool and meat.

The Agency's Plans

The Agency's plans predicated that sheep and cattle farming would be the mainstay of the village, which benefits from the rare privilege of almost year-round natural pasture. Forty pure-bred calves were brought in, partly at the settlers' expense; but although the instructors made it a point to explain to the farmers that besides taking the heifers out on pasture they would have to give them grain feed, the villagers paid no heed. When only 18 cows remained, it was decided to switch over to sheep farming, which makes fewer demands on the villagers. The acquisition of 220 sheep was financed out of the Agency budget, and the village flock has now grown to 700 head, of which some households own as many as 20.

Each household received 100 chickens, and chicken coops were put up, but the villagers could not adjust themselves to the Government programme under which feed is allocated in proportion to registered egg production, and they did not make a go of cooperative marketing. Chicken farming had to be discontinued, and when it is resumed, the villagers will have to bear part of the burden of the investment.

These are only a few of the difficulties. I was on hand to witness the debate that ensued when Moshe Arnov, one of the instructors, rebuked one of the settlers for not yet having done his ploughing (there is one mule to every three units, and tractors are available from the Agency's district station at Safsufa). The villager took the instructor's remarks philosophically and gave any number of excuses. The people of Alma do not like to exert themselves and do not demand much. Window-panes broken by the wind remain unrepaired; the holes are boarded up somehow or plugged up with sacks stuffed with rags. Many of the people still sleep on mats on the floor.

It started raining hard as I walked through the village. A wet sheep outside the barn bleated to be let in. Her owner stood inside and looked out at her through a crack in the window, unwilling to go out and get wet in order to bring her in.

It is indifference like this that the instructors are up against. The Hebrew lessons that are organized by the cultural committee of Hapoel Hamizrahi, the Government's Information Services and the Regional Council have met with little response, especially on the part of the girls. Electricity is being installed at last, but in the absence of any standard of education it is hard to say whether it will be used properly.

The staff that is out to remedy all this consists of two farm instructors from the established moshav of Sde Ya'akov, one social instructor (another one is to arrive shortly for the Cochinese), one worker in the cooperative store, from Acre, one orchard specialist from Nahariya, two teachers, one kindergarten teacher and a cook and dietitian for the children's kitchen.

They are assisted by the village secretary and an elective committee, and by the professional advice of specialised visiting Agency instructors who supervise Alma's olive grove, its large vineyard, its 250 dunams of tobacco and its field crops programme and give advice to the settlers.

These instructors are made of special stuff. Moshe Arnov is 50 years old, has been in this country since the Twenties. He left Sde Ya'akov in 1950 in response to Mr. Ben-Gurion's call, and has been an instructor to Hapoel Hamizrahi immigrant settlements in Upper Galilee ever since.

In addition to Alma, his territory covers four settlements, where he is always available as adviser and trouble-shooter for those who have decided to bind their future to that of the villagers. Only twice a week does he go home to his family, and his farm, which he has left in charge of his son.

Such an example leaves its imprints on the village. When infiltrators blew up two houses a few months ago, the effect was fleeting and the villagers' morale remained unshaken: they only became the more alert. Two new houses were rapidly built in their stead by the Agency, and Alma's progress, slow and erratic but steady, remained uninterrupted.

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581 delegates, elected in the general elections on May 8, 1955, representing 175,400 Histadrut members, of whom 74,500 are members of 452 cooperative settlements, and 100,807 are members of 50 agricultural settlements, participated in the 9th Conference of the Agricultural Workers Organization, which took place in Rehovot, on October 8-13, 1955.

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35th Anniversary.
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The Herzliya Local Council
greets the Histadrut
on the occasion of
its 35th anniversary.

To the delegates of the Eighth Histadrut Convention assembled in Haifa
the city of Histadrut's development and to all its members
The Haifa Municipality extends heartfelt greetings:
May the Histadrut continue to be the backbone of the redemption of Israel in its Homeland.

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and Good Wishes
From
JERUSALEM, Capital of Israel
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on its 35th anniversary
Hold high your flag of constructive endeavour and march forward towards the rehabilitation of the nation and the building of the State. Jerusalem looks to you to add many new enterprises in the interest of its economic development.
Gershon Agron
Mayor

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and Best Wishes
to the Histadrut
in honour of its Eighth Convention
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to the Eighth Histadrut Congress
May this great gathering serve as another guiding milestone on the historic road of labour progress and the rebuilding of Israel.
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What is the Israel Worker's Real Wage?

COMPARISONS WITH CONDITIONS IN OTHER LANDS

By David Krivine
Israel Representative of the I.L.O.

IT is not known exactly what the average wage in Israel is today, though a survey is studying the question at this moment. The last occasion on which a census was effected was in October, 1952, and the wage then came to IL184 a month for men and IL120 for women. At that time, the index number for the cost-of-living allowance was 207. Today, it is 256, so that, taking into regard increases in the average basic wage, it is probable that the average gross wage for men workers today is in the neighbourhood of IL210.

The date of the last census however is apposite, for the I.L.O.'s Yearbook of Labour Statistics 1954 gives wages for different countries, and the latest dat... for most territories refer to the autumn and winter of 1953. Transferring all the different currencies into Israel pounds gives us the following comparative table of average monthly wages in a selection of countries.

	Average Wage	Hours per week
Egypt	IL 47	51
Japan	83	46
Turkey	86	—
Italy	102	46.36
France	121	44.8
Brazil	140	—
W. Germany	149	47.9
Israel	180	—
Britain	176	46.9
(manual workers)		
Denmark	366	—
Canada	475	41.3
United States	550	40.5

It would seem that Israel's wage standard is consonant with the level achieved in Western Europe. It should be added that, as concerns workers who are holding down permanent jobs, the Histadrut policy of limiting wage differentials between the highest and lowest-paid workers means that the latter stand closer to the national average than in almost any other country.

However, nominal wages, compared in accordance with the exchange-rates of the various currencies, do not necessarily reflect the true earnings of the worker. The average British manual worker earns little more than the average Israel employed person—in Israel pounds. But might not his purchasing power be substantially greater? It all depends on prices. The Yearbook of Labour Statistics has a section which details prices for various commodities, mainly foodstuffs. Let us translate a selection of those prices into Israel currency for nine of the countries whose average wages we have given above. Prices are given in prutot, in October 1953:

	Japan	Turkey	Italy	France	W. Germany	Israel	Britain	Denmark	United States
White wheat bread	263	716	389	293	875	340	160	301	606
Other bread	—	—	—	—	300	130	—	128	—
Brisket of beef	2,267	1,716	2,225	1,167	1,729	2,000	880	1,206	2,122
Fresh fish	395	—	2,419	971	867	1,520	987	456	1,725
Salted fish	1,867	—	855	977	663	550	—	—	—
Margarine	1,749	2,000	—	1,563	888	700	834	854	1,150
Milk	606	433	246	347	167	250	256	120	452
Butter	4,666	5,200	5,332	4,215	2,625	3,000	1,850	1,883	3,130
Cheese	4,000	1,566	4,864	2,700	2,201	360	1,200	1,467	2,300
Eggs	87	66	119	134	112	70	90-126	96	119
Potatoes	127	168	162	82	69	307	92	89	182
Apples	—	547	284	596	365	—	533	417	320
Oranges	464	530	—	700	596-648	150	462	590	605
Sugar	388	910	754	596	583	180	368	234	421
Coffee	—	7,416	6,756	4,652	9,006	4,000	—	4,086	3,634
Tea	5,110	10,458	7,800	13,364	13,696	3,000	2,705	5,523	5,130
Beer	347	200	650	204	583	365	606	164	—
Electricity	82	169	119	134	90	56	36	51	101
Soap	135	106	94	67	73	50	80	160	93
Cigarettes	300	195	638	611	716	300	906	894	621

PRICES have gone up in Israel since October 1953. Nevertheless they have slightly declined as a proportion of wages; for the index of food prices has risen by 13.7 per cent between October 1953 and September 1955, whereas the general Cost-of-Living Index has risen by 15.4 per cent. On the other hand, it is possible that the prices given in the Yearbook slightly understate the actual expenditures effected by the Israel worker. There are few employed persons in Israel who do not patronize the free market to a greater or lesser extent — more so today than in October, 1953, when the prices submitted to Geneva by Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics covered a wider proportion of total purchases. The following table repeats the prices cited; gives a list of prices (both controlled and free) as printed in "Ha'aretz" in an article that appeared on February 23, 1955; and gives a list of prices checked by myself in Jerusalem on December 23, 1955:

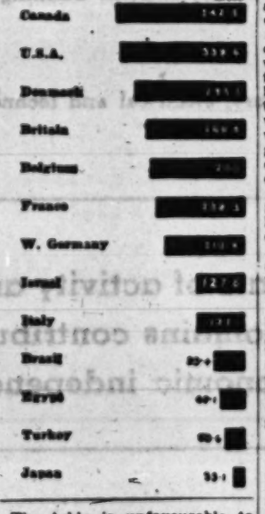
	Prices in Oct. 1953 Yearbook	Prices on 28.2.55 ("Ha'aretz") Official	Free	Prices on 28.12.55 Official	Free
White bread	340)	180		250	
Other bread	130)			190	
Brisket of beef	2,000	2,306	5,000		
Salted fish	850			850	
Margarine	700	900	1,675	900	
Milk	250	270		310	(pasteurized)
Butter	3,000	900	2,500	(3,000 (1,500*	3,000
Cheese	300	324 (hard)	2,000 (hard)	350* (hard)	1,200—2,000
Eggs	70	72	100	70—80	120—140
Potatoes	207	168			
Sugar	180	270	854	270	700
Coffee	4,000	6,624	9,000	6,000	10,000—11,000
Tea	3,000			5,000	8,000
Beer	365				
Soap	90			85	
Cigarettes	300			125—300	

* U.S. gift

ISRAEL's price level must be viewed as standing somewhere between the two lists — the controlled and the free market. It can be seen that, as concerns food purchases, Israel prices are not so far out of line with the world situation. The country enjoys cheap bread, and cheap soap. Meat and fish are dear and potatoes are available in Western Europe at a fraction of the price charged in Israel (perhaps that is a good reason why the bread price is kept lower in Israel than it is in France, Germany and Denmark). Milk and eggs are comparable with prices abroad, oranges are exceptionally cheap and Israel enjoys a valuable benefit in that American gift butter and cheese are at the moment reducing the price of these two essential commodities substantially. Coffee and tea seem to have become expensive commodities the world over.

The table in "Ha'aretz" goes further and compares the price of clothing and shoes with W. Germany, Austria, Italy and France. Israel comes out, if anything, the cheapest. There are many other items that require comparison. A useful table in the I.L.O.'s Yearbook gives the percentage that the average family spends of its income on the main broad items such as food, rent, furniture, clothing, etc. Unfortunately, Israel ceased to supply statistics for this table after 1948. At that time, rent came to 8.4 per cent of total expenditure, which is broadly consistent with the level prevalent in W. Europe. The proportion spent on food, however, was rather high at 66.6 per cent.

Yet another table in the Yearbook gives the average consumption per head in kilogrammes of the different categories of foodstuffs in the various countries. I have taken four of the most nutritious foods generally associated with a high standard of living: meat, fish, milk and milk products, and eggs. Annual consumption per head of all these four products together varies as follows:



The table is unfavourable to Israel, whose figures are given for the years of scarcity 1950-51. Allowance can also be made for the tendency to a wholesome vegetarianism in Israel, including the consumption of olives, soya flour in bread, groundnuts eaten in a variety of forms, etc. The fact remains that the territories consuming less than Israel of the commodities indicated in the table are poor countries.

The chief difficulty facing the Israeli is not low wages or high prices; it is an inadequate selection of low-priced foodstuffs. It is true that frozen fillet of cod is obtainable at the ration price of 0.550 a kilo. But what else is there for that sum at the fishmonger's? Generally nothing, occasionally frozen plaice, and more rarely frozen herring. The purchaser is forced back on fresh carp at IL1.500 a kilo, fresh sea fish at IL1.500-IL4 a kilo, chicken at IL3—IL5½ a kilo and meat at IL5.500-IL7 a kilo. It is not that he seeks expensive dishes: he is driven to them by a lack of alternative cheap foods. It is conceivable that the most effective and least inflationary method of meeting the pressure for a wage increase would be to make a wider variety and bigger choice of good cheap foods available. This would be tantamount to a general price reduction. A worker who found that he had frozen mackerel, plaice, herring, kippers, haddock, whiting and halibut available to choose from all at one time, for less than IL1 a kilo, would reduce his visits to the butcher appreciably and find that his pay packet had magically grown more long-lived.

What is our conclusion? On the basis of the rough examination made above of the situation in different countries, the following may be said: if Israel's wages were as low as in theory they ought to be (that is, no higher than labour's part in the national product, excluding foreign grants and loans) then the Israel population's average real wage or purchasing power would compare unfavourably with the West European countries, and it is probable that the Israel worker would be less than competent (as regards nutritional standards, etc.) to be maximally productive. In this sense it can be said that the Histadrut's wage policy in the past, which demanded living standards higher than the national product alone could justify, may have been a shrewd investment in Israel's future.

1. In the Yearbook of Labour Statistics for 1955, which appeared as this article was being written, Israel's consumption is given for 1953-3, and comes to 156.1 kilogrammes. The Yearbook is obtainable from the author at the Ministry of Labour, Jerusalem. Price IL4.500 (board covers IL 7.500).

Poultry on the Kibbutz

By Yitzhak Ya'akovi

THE poultry slaughtering and plucking plant, at Kibbutz Kfar Menahem in the South, is the first of its kind in the country, and its products are cleaned chickens which the housewife can place straight in the pot without any additional work whatsoever. She receives the chicken cleaned, the intestines removed, the giblets replaced, and the whole hygienically wrapped. A ritual slaughterer examines each fowl before and after it is slaughtered, and the products of the plant are strictly *kasher*.

The chicken "population" of Kfar Menahem numbers 150,000, which is renewed every three months, and in addition there are 80,000 chicks. The whole branch is mechanized, and there is a minimum of manual labour. The settlement supplies 500 tons of poultry to the market annually, and the plant is able, at its present stage, to deal with half this quantity.

As the *shohet* slaughters the chickens, they are placed on a conveyor belt. This carries them to the main plucking machine, which plucks two chickens in less than a minute. They are then carried by the belt to the four auxiliary plucking machines, which remove the feathers left on the wings and legs. Finally, they go to yet another machine, which removes the down and the dirt, and after a few seconds they emerge clean and smooth.

"Surgery" Department

From here, the bird moves to the "surgery department." A member of the *kibbutz* performs a "Caesarian operation," a second decapitates the bird and removes its legs, and a third extracts the intestines. This work is done on stainless steel tables, and the girls wear rubber gloves. There is a hose at the side of each worker, and with a light touch, a jet of water cleans the body and the giblets. From this section, the chicken passes to the packing department, where the giblets are placed inside the body, which is then trussed. The Rabbinate's label testifying to the *kashrut* of the product is then attached, together with the Tnuva stamp, and the birds are ready for weighing and packing, twelve to the box.

During the entire process, the bird is on pieces of ice, and it is planned to install a machine that will produce ice chips on the spot. In addition, a set of freezing machines is on the way from abroad, and when they are working, it will be possible to market the chickens frozen.

What motivated the establishment of the plant? It was found that for every 18 kilogrammes of edible chicken meat, the kibbutz had to transport 47 kilogrammes, including cages. Further, when live birds travel, they lose weight, and in some cases they die. Other factors were the costs of porterage, and the unsanitary conditions often encountered when the poultry is slaughtered and plucked.

Timing Productivity

By John Davy

LONDON, (OFNS)— A RESEARCH worker at Birmingham University, Mr. R. F. W. Crossman, is developing a new technique for improving the efficiency of manual work in factories. He calls it "perception study," and it is designed to be used in combination with the more familiar time and motion study.

The latter techniques concentrate on making a careful analysis of the physical movements a worker makes to perform a job, and of the time taken to perform it. By studying these observations, wasteful movements and wasted time can be detected and eliminated.

In most manual tasks, however, Mr. Crossman says, the movements are not automatic, the senses of the worker must observe the progress of each step, make a decision to proceed to the next, and check the result. In other words, the mind and senses of the worker are involved in even the simplest task.

Conventional time and motion study neglects this aspect of manual work, largely because it is, so to speak, "invisible" to the observer, who only sees the final results of the workers' mental and perceptual activity. To fill this gap is the purpose of Mr. Crossman's research. It should make possible a much more complete analysis of any task than has been possible so far, and at the same time show up further ways of improving efficiency in performing it.

Mr. Crossman has invented a series of symbols and a form of chart on which can be tabulated not only the physical stages in the performance of a task, but also the principal perceptual and mental activities which are going on at the same time.

Wiring a resistance onto a chassis in a radio assembly line for instance, involves three or four fairly simple physical operations — grasping the resistance, placing it in position, grasping a pair of pliers, and bending a tag into place. At the same time, the eye must observe where the hand is placing the resistance, and the brain must make the decision to steer the hand in a different direction if it is about to place the resistance wrongly, and so on.

In a paper published in the current number of "Research," Mr. Crossman gives a complete analysis in time, motion and perceptual terms of a simple manual operation, namely, dealing a pack of cards. On his chart, the inefficient parts of the operation as normally performed show up very clearly.

Nowadays, electronic computers and other devices can replace the human brain and sense organs for controlling and checking many industrial tasks, particularly those which have to be carried out at very high speed. But no machine can rival the human brain and sense organs for compactness, flexibility and overall capacity, so that for many years men will be employed in factories for various kinds of manual control work. The object of perception study is to see that these human capacities are used to the greatest possible extent.

PRODUCERS AND SERVICE

By L. Losh
of the Cooperative Centre

WHILE the cooperative movement all over the world has been expanding steadily to a point where it now represents many millions of people, cooperatives for production hardly exist on any scale in spite of many attempts at different times and in different countries to organize production in a cooperative way. Israel is one of the few countries in which producers' co-operatives have maintained themselves for many years, a fact which lends special interest to both the achievements and the problems encountered.

Producers' co-ops are concentrated mainly in 15 industries, besides service co-ops in 11 different fields. The main industries represented are metal-working and electrical goods; wood; building materials; printing and paper; leather; textiles and garment manufacture; baking and confectionery; food processing; chemicals and pharmaceuticals; glass and ceramics; and cigarettes; other co-ops manufacture spectacle frames, pearl buttons, brushes and so on. On the whole the producer co-ops are concentrated in the lighter industries producing for consumption. The services represented include transport and haulage, distribution of meat, ice and kerosene; laundries; restaurants and hotels; well-boring and other types of digging and exploration; port services; while there are also co-operatives in architecture and engineering, in cinemas and other fields.

Provisional Summary of Producer and Service Co-ops in 1955

Branch	No. of Coops	No. of workers	Own Capital	Investments	Annual Income	Wages
			(In Thousands of Israel Pounds)			
Producer	200	4,657	2,291	7,756	25,927	7,695
Service	43	1,858	649	2,621	4,947	1,870
Restaurants and hotels	23	272	86	314	1,452	566
Passenger and goods Transport	26	6,543	6,496	17,850	20,341	13,357
Total	292	13,910	9,522	28,541	52,667	23,288

These producer and service co-ops are organized in a section of the labour economy which has its own Audit Union and a national headquarters known as the Co-operative Centre. The Co-operative Centre does not however deal with industries run by *kibbutzim*, or with industrial subsidiaries of other co-operative enterprises such as Tnuva or Hamashbir. In all, the Centre has at present 281 affiliated societies with a total labour force of 12,000. There are also, outside the Co-operative Centre, some, but very few, non-Histadrut co-ops.

The social character of the co-ops is of interest not only to the co-operative movement but to the general public. People ask in what way a co-op differs from any other industry. We believe that there is a fundamental difference, but to answer the question adequately it is necessary to appreciate some of the practical issues involved. One of the most fundamental is the price of a share, a question closely linked with admission of new members to co-operatives. In general the cost of a share corresponds to the real value of one member's part in the co-op, but the more successful a co-op is the more such an evaluation is a bar to admission of new members; and this difficulty is enhanced in times of currency instability. If however a share is priced much less than the real value of a partnership in the co-op, there will be a natural tendency on the part of members to close the co-op to newcomers. As a result hired workers taken on to cope with expanding orders, find it increasingly difficult to gain entry as members. The share price is thus closely connected with basic co-operative principles.

After much thought the Co-operative Centre has recently decided on a new approach to this problem. Hitherto we have followed the principle that all members have one share and one vote. Henceforth it will be possible for members who can afford it to hold several shares, which will carry a limited annual bonus; but it will be enough to acquire one share to become a member, and additional shares will not carry additional votes. This plan will only be introduced in co-ops where the share price and admission of new members constitute a problem.

In the last year or two a number of producers' co-ops have ceased functioning altogether. This resulted in the main from the very rapid expansion of the previous years, when numerous new societies were started, chiefly by immigrants, without sufficient capital and often by groups ill-sorted in training and background. As co-ops they could not continue once the number of members fell below the legal minimum of seven. However, the total labour force engaged in producers' co-ops has not diminished but increased; as against 334 co-ops with 11,841 workers in 1953, there were in 1955 281 co-ops with 12,010 workers. Their own capital amounted to IL9.5m., their investments to IL28.5m. while their annual income totalled IL52.6m. in 1955.

The Co-operative Centre maintains a number of central institutions to assist affiliated co-ops. The Co-operative Fund helps finance co-op enterprises. Neo Ltd., the central purchasing company of co-operative passenger transport and haulage firms, is an organization with an annual turnover of IL4m. and is one of the partners in the Alliance Tire Company and in the Israel Fuel Company. Shetef Ltd. is the central supply and marketing institution of the co-ops, with a subsidiary Shetef Sahar Hutz which handles exports and imports. The Hotel and Restaurant Centre of the co-op movement deals with 12 institutions of this kind with an annual turnover of IL2.5m. In addition, the co-ops run a central pension fund, Magen, which provides old age and invalid pensions, and benefits to dependents of deceased members. Magen also grants loans to individual members for purposes such as housing.

The central institutions of producer and service co-ops are now considering future activity along the following lines:

a) strengthening co-operative discipline and standards;
b) encouraging entry of new members, especially young people and highly skilled workers, and reducing hired labour;
c) expanding economic activity and seeking new sources of finance, in view of credit restrictions;
d) Re-organization of the central institutions, to differentiate sections for production, services and transport; and in the field of finance, to separate banking and investment.

It is planned to set up a technological department to provide the co-ops with the advice of experts in technology, costing, work organization and productivity; to expand the cultural services and publish works on co-operation and sociology; and to improve the efficiency of accounts and statistics.

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on the occasion of its
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The Beilinson Hospital of Kupat Holim at Petah Tikva

How the Histadrut Works

By Misha Louvish

THE official English version of the Histadrut's name is "The General Federation of Jewish Labour," but, like most translations, the term "Federation" is not entirely accurate. A federation is basically an association of autonomous units, each supreme in its own field of activity, which delegates carefully defined functions and powers to a central authority. The Histadrut, on the other hand, is built on individual membership, and its central organs have theoretically unlimited powers.

An American or British worker joins a Trade Union, to which he owes allegiance in industrial matters and pays his union dues. The individual unions thereafter combine to form federations for the purpose of furthering their common interests, but they reserve the right to take their own decisions, especially in fixing wages and labour conditions and initiating or terminating strike action.

In Israel the situation is fundamentally different. Here the worker joins *the* Histadrut, and his dues are centrally collected. It is the central organization which allots funds to its constituent bodies and its decisions are final on all questions. Indeed, almost all the separate trade unions—the most conspicuous exception is the Agricultural Union—were founded by the Histadrut, and not the other way round.

The working of the system is most clearly obvious when the Convention, the supreme body of the Histadrut, has to be elected. Each party submits country-wide lists of candidates, which are voted on by the entire membership, in town and country. (Separate elections are held to the Conferences of Agricultural Workers and Working Women, but the supremacy of the main Convention is not thereby affected.)

Delegates to the Histadrut Convention do not therefore, in the first place, represent metalworkers, clerks, labourers and so forth, but the whole body of members. In practice, they are delegates of the various parties, and submit to strict party discipline in voting if not always in debate, but this does not affect the general tendency — which is a result of this structure — to decide matters of countrywide importance from the point of view of the interests of the workers and the nation as a whole.

The Central Bodies

The same applies to the central bodies which are in control between one Convention and the next. The General Council *(Moetza)*, which meets about twice a year to decide on matters of principle, the Executive Bureau *(Vaad Hapoel)*, which sits fortnightly or oftener and is empowered to take binding decisions, and the Coordinating Committee *(Vaadah Merakezet)*, which acts as a kind of Cabinet, are built according to the same party "key," which is determined by the results of the elections.

It is because of this constitutional set-up that on such basic questions as that of wages the Histadrut can take into account not only the immediate interests of the workers but the needs of the national economy. Naturally there are inherent limitations on this general tendency. Each party must always keep in mind the need to maintain the allegiance of its members or the possibility of gaining votes by pursuing a more popular policy. Such considerations are of course uppermost in the minds of the leaders of the various sections at a time when the Histadrut has to decide whether to continue the policy of wage restraint or submit claims for higher rates of pay. But at least the Histadrut is far better able to arrive at and maintain a uniform wage policy than most trade union movements in other countries.

Another limitation is the possibility of independent unconstitutional action by groups of workers which defy the Histadrut's authority. We have just passed through a period in which a series of such revolts has been staged by senior civil servants and professional men. The Histadrut has treated these revolts with kid gloves for fear of being faced with the formation of breakaway organizations, and agreed to compromises as a result of *force majeure*.

The great buildings in Arlosorov Street in Tel Aviv, which house the offices of the Vaad Hapoel, are the outward expression of this centralist principle. Here we have the principal departments and the headquarters of the individual trade unions under the one roof. But of course the Vaad Hapoel is not everything. Outside its walls there are the separate central offices of such powerful institutions as Solel Boneh, Tnuva and Hamashbir, of Kupat Holim and the collective settlement federations, and of the cooperatives like Egged.

All these belong to the great Histadrut family, but they are like grown-up children, who have set up house on their own. Solel Boneh's board of directors is appointed by the Histadrut, but it runs its extensive enterprises almost without interference; Hamashbir and Tnuva are governed by representatives of their member-settlements and societies; Kupat Holim has its own controlling council; and the industrial and service cooperatives, of course, are owned by their members.

From time to time the Vaad Hapoel takes a hand, when an important question of principle crops up, such as the management of the transport cooperatives' funds or the internal dispute in Ein Harod, but every attempt is made to exhaust all the possibilities of negotiation and arbitration before the highest authority exercises its theoretically supreme powers. In practice, these institutions are more independent in many ways than the local authorities are *vis a vis* the Central Government.

What, then, is the Histadrut? So far as the separate trade unions and local Labour Councils are concerned it is too tightly organized to justify the name of Federation, but on the other hand it has less control over the various semi-autonomous bodies under its aegis than most federations have. Perhaps the best term would be a Community, some of whose activities are under central administration, while others are conducted by a bewildering variety of organizations, organized in many different ways, and providing enormous scope for experiment and individual initiative.

OPTIMISM IS FREE

By Thena Heshel

AS optimism is free of duty in this country — the customs doubtless considering that income from such a source would be minimal — I landed with a large supply of the commodity and the Letter. The letter was addressed to important people, and the writer had assured me that it would act as a written Sesame on several doors.

The first door at which I knocked opened as quickly as had been prophesied. A face that rose above the open collar gave a welcoming grin. "*Shalom* — come in, we are expecting you."

This was wonderful. The letter's quality seemed to pierce through various obstacles straight to the addressee's heart. Wondering whether he was armed with some form of Geiger counter designed to detect 'protekzia-active' people, I followed him into the room, and through the office into a smaller room where finally we stopped by a small cupboard. He opened it to reveal an array of brooms, mops, and other cleansing materials. With his hand he introduced me. "Here you are, you can start at once."

"But," I explained, "this is a case of mixed identity. A Comedy of Errors in fact (thus displaying my knowledge of English Literature) I have not come here to do *sponja* (this pointed to my acquaintance with colloquial Hebrew) but I do have a letter of recommendation to you." I embarked upon a recital of my qualifications and pushed the letter into his hand. Neither seemed to impress him. When my *spiel* was finished he merely said, "Dear me, what shall I do now. The office has not been cleaned for weeks." I took the unopened letter out of his hand and left him contemplating the broom-cupboard.

The letter and I proceeded towards the next address. The road of course was difficult to find. I asked the way and was told to go to the left for 100 metres and then turn by the *makolet*. Follow the road till the end and you cannot miss the big, white building. Once again I proved my talent for the impossible, as by following the instructions I soon found myself on a deserted plot, where a large notice informed me that one could obtain two-room flats here in September. Feeling in need of more solid shelter until that date, I retraced my steps and eventually reached my destination.

This time I took no chances. Inspecting the floor, whose tiles appeared well cared for, I ascended the staircase and finally found the right door. This time the door was opened by a secretary who looked as though she had stepped out of an advertisement for typewriters. Her face betrayed no emotion as I asked for her 'boss'—though doubtless the same could not be said for mine when she informed me that he was at present on a month's convalescent holiday and could not deal with anything. I started to explain that I had a letter — and the mouth (wearing Max Factor's latest shade) allowed itself a smile. "Everybody has a letter. Why don't you get yourself a job as a typist?" What a practical country, I thought, as I walked back down the corridor.

Place in Uproar

There was still another address to which I could take the Letter. When I got there the place was in an uproar. The door stood wide open. The telephone on one desk was ringing. By the second desk a man stood shouting into another receiver "But I tell you that it is absolutely impossible — out of the question." Feeling that this was a very bad omen I entered the room. ...s I came in, he slammed down the telephone, waved me to a chair and continued the motion until his hand grasped the still shrilling phone. This time the conversation consisted of grunts punctuated by monosyllabic ejaculations of the nature of 'um... ah' and ended finally on a very definite "No I can't." As I expected, the receiver returned to its rest with greater precipitation than the unaided force of gravity would give.

I began my recital of qualifications and started to get the letter. He stopped me with a motion of the hand... "I've read it, and dozens like it... and I am not interested. Now if you knew anything about handling a switchboard..."

Back in my room I took out the letter and gave it the perusal which even the poorest of letters deserves. Then striking a match, I made a small bonfire of it in an ashtray.

The next morning I presented myself at the Employment Exchange. After waiting in the miserable queue of miscellaneous humanity, my turn came. "What can you do?" I resisted the reflex action of bringing out the qualifications which might seem important elsewhere. *Sponja*, I said firmly.

They sent me to a family in Rehavia. They were very charming people—the woman and I became very friendly, and the third time that I came there she came into the sitting room as I was wielding the mop with the dexterity born of my lengthening experience. "Look," she said, "a girl like you — you could be in a better position. My husband works in a Government office—perhaps if he gave you a letter..."

Rural Economy

(Continued from Page 15.)

Fund represented a complete innovation and its success was doubted by many, but now even the most backward worker knows the advantages of membership. A difficult organizational problem was involved in handling receipts and payments, since the members are widely dispersed, but this has been solved by effecting all payments through the labour exchanges.

Services of the Insurance Fund

The Agricultural Workers' Insurance Fund is one of the funds recognized by the Government in terms of the Paid Annual Holidays Law. For this purpose it receives the equivalent of 4 per cent of wages from the employer, and since this does not always suffice to provide 12 days' paid leave, the balance is made up by the Fund itself. The Fund also handles payment for the period of military reserve service, makes grants to members on the birth of a child, takes out life insurance policies for its members and is responsible for sick pay and part of holiday costs.

Incentive Pay

Agriculture was a field which a few years ago, at the height of immigration, presented a special problem of low labour productivity. This is no longer the case, and the change from time to piece rates must be regarded as one of the major factors responsible for the change, in addition to the adjustment of newcomers to their new circumstances. The introduction of incentive pay requires careful study of the conditions in each type of agricultural work. Such studies have been made, and norms are now established in citrus picking, cotton, groundnut and olive picking and most forms of agricultural work. Workers who put in a hard eight hours' work earn a very fair wage indeed. The norms are fixed by a joint committee representing workers and employers, and are based on the capacities of an average worker.

Housing and Auxiliary Farms

The Organization's plans for improving the security and standard of living of agricultural labour involve provision of housing with an auxiliary farm. In addition we have a plan for purchase of orange groves by workers under a savings scheme. The auxiliary farm and a small grove will supplement outside earnings and keep the worker occupied when other work slackens off.

The saving scheme plan, run jointly by the Agricultural Centre and the Ministry of Labour, provides for five dunams on reasonable credit, with a 50 per cent Government loan, and the land will be handed over two years after planting, if the worker desires. By tending the grove himself the owner will earn the sums earmarked for cultivation costs. Once the grove reaches the fruit-bearing stage it will provide an important supplement to his wages and its care will take up any days for which he cannot get outside employment.

MAKE-UP OF HISTADRUT ANALYSED

By Dr. M. Ater
Jerusalem Post Economic Editor

THE Histadrut, by its ramified activities and sheer numerical weight, constitutes the major factor in our social life. Even before the State it comprised about a third of the country's Jewish population. At the beginning of 1955 its total strength was almost exactly one half, viz. 775,000 (including family dependents of members) out of 1.53m. Jews in Israel. Within the working class the Histadrut's share has been estimated at approximately 80 per cent, compared with 70 per cent in 1950. It is a natural consequence of these facts that in most economic questions, in particular those concerning wages and terms of work, the vote of the Histadrut's Executive Committee is decisive.

This general predominance tends however to distract us from the Histadrut's special social features, which are of importance in framing its policy, and little attention has been paid to the changes that have taken place in its composition and social outlook. This is quite natural in a nation which is still in flux, the more so as statistics concerning manpower, employment, social status and similar items are difficult to obtain and often of doubtful value. Figures at hand are often ambiguous or contradictory and a special study would be required to paint a clear picture. Some salient points are, however, easily discernible.

First, the official figures seem to exaggerate the Histadrut's proportion of the country's working population by also including the members' wives. Thus, the above figure of the "Histadrut population" includes 250,000 dependents, 159,000 "members' wives" and over 77,000 female members, but a considerable part of this last category are in fact wives and daughters of members in "labour settlements" who are automatically reckoned as full members (with the result that in this sector the proportion of male to female members is approximately 5:4, while in the rest of the country it is only about 5:1). Moreover, wives paying fees in order to be eligible for full Sick Fund benefits are also considered members. Another source of exaggeration seems to lie in the rural sector, where membership fees for "agricultural labourers" residing in new immigrant villages have sometimes been paid by special arrangement in order to make these settlers eligible for Sick Fund help and for work distributed through the Labour Exchanges. Thus the membership of the "Agricultural Hired Workers Union" jumped from 19,000 to 40,000 during 1954.

Second, according to the Histadrut constitution, it is not confined to wage-earners, but may be joined by anyone who does not exploit others' labour as a basis for his own income. Therefore the Histadrut also comprises the bulk of the country's farmers in the collective and smallholder settlements (with over 40,000 male members) and the members of transport and producers' cooperatives (about 7,000). As a matter of fact, quite a number of owners of auxiliary farms and small workshops and of professional firms (auditors, engineers, advocates etc.) are to be put into this category of non-proletarian Histadrut members, which certainly runs into several thousands.

The total number of wage earning members of the Histadrut is approximately 250,000 (at the beginning of 1955).

These are official estimates but do not pretend to be exact, for in some unions membership fluctuates or the unions include non-Histadrut members or also serve as local caretakers for non-organized fellow-workers. However, several interesting relationships are revealed by these figures.

They show that civil servant, clerk and other "white collar" unions are now the biggest sector within organized employed labour, accounting for over 100,000 members, i.e. 40 per cent of the total. Industrial workers account for another 30 per cent and building workers for 10 per cent, but among single unions building workers rank fourth, as the Agricultural Workers Union only comprises some 10-11,000 permanent wage-earners while the rest are part-time workers, mainly new immigrants doing outside work. There are also hired workers organized within the Histadrut framework without belonging to any specific trade union.

In order to evaluate the relative strength of the various unions one should know, first, the extent of unorganized labour in the respective industry, and second the extent to which each union operates within the Histadrut's own enterprises. For the first point comparative statistics are not easily available but it is evident that there are considerable differences between the various unions.

While some maintain an effective "closed shop" — e.g. civil servants, teachers, seafarers — other unions have to reckon with a more or less important body of unorganized labour or with another union. The situation is most pronounced in agriculture, where permanent labour organized in the Histadrut union seems to be a minority within the total wage-earning labour force.

The importance of the Histadrut as an employer is greatest for the Metal and Building Workers Union and for the physicians, nurses etc., connected with the Histadrut's Sick Fund. As a matter of fact, about 30 per cent of the metal workers are employed in Histadrut industry (2,300), by the nationalised Palestine Electric Corporation (2,500), by cooperatives, *kibbutzim*, the Government, etc., In the building industry the percentages are even the other way round, with Solel Boneh and other Histadrut bodies employing more than half of the entire labour force.

The total number of wage-earners employed by Histadrut bodies can perhaps be estimated at 50-60,000, of which almost half are employed by Solel Boneh and its subsidiaries and the other half about equally divided between other Histadrut industries, the Sick Fund, other Histadrut bodies (partly office staff, partly technical, agricultural and unskilled labour) and cooperatives. Thus almost one quarter of the total number of wage-earners organized within its trade unions are directly employed by the Histadrut itself.



Metal Workers	33,600
Food and Bakery Workers	17,800
Textile Workers	13,000
Printing Workers	3,000
Wood Workers	7,500
Diamond Workers	2,000
Building Workers	24,500
Seafarers	1,500
Lorry Drivers	2,500
Agricultural Workers	40,000
Civil Servants	25,000
Clerical Workers	50,000
Physicians	1,320
Nurses	3,000
Pharmacists	500
Teachers	12,300
Engineers (incl. other technicians)	7,300
Social Workers	900
Artists and Musicians	950
Chemists and Microbiologists	600
Watchmen	1,550
Total ca.	250,000

Growth of Histadrut Membership—1949 to 1954

(based on figures published by Central Fees Office)

Year (Dec.)	Working Members	Housewives	Total Adult Members	Children	Total Persons
1949	166,912	71,652	238,564	112,225	350,789
1950	238,796	100,005	338,801	156,581	495,382
1951	302,759	139,468	442,227	219,801	662,028
1952	317,317	147,671	464,988	241,262	706,250
1953	320,176	151,751	471,927	253,952	725,879
1954	340,238	161,610	501,848	264,259	766,107

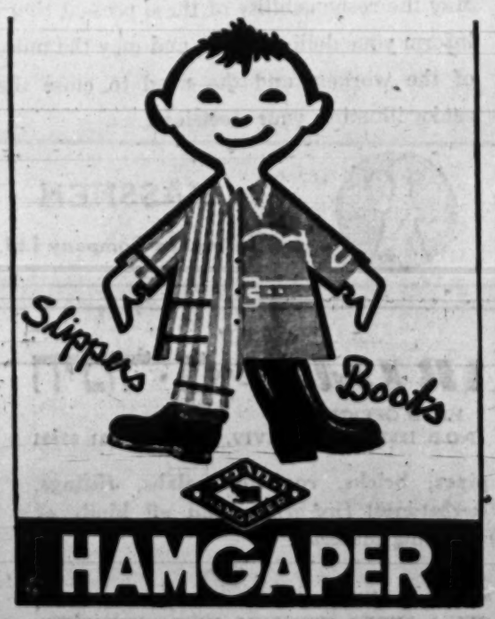
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Today's Postbag

THE WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair and dry. Outlook for Shabbat: warm, dry and hazy.

	A	B	C	D
Mt. Cana'an	92	6	13	16
Tiberias	70	13	20	25
Haifa Port	68	14	18	21
Natanya	66	13	21	23
Tel Aviv Kirya	60	13	18	22
Tel Aviv Port	64	13	17	21
Lydda Airport	64	9	17	23
Jerusalem	76	7	13	17
Beersheba	80	10	17	24
Eilat	95	16	28	37

(A) Humidity at 2 p.m. B) Minimum temp. C) Maximum yesterday D) Maximum temp. expected today

* * *

HEINRICH HEINE will be commemorated in a broadcast over Kol Yisrael at 10 p.m. tomorrow. Leah Porat will read from the poet's works, and Lotte Laufer and Avraham Wilkomirsky will sing Heine songs.

(See Page 8)

* * *

IL3,000 DAMAGE was caused by a fire which broke out in the packing department of the Nur match factory in Acre during Wednesday night. The Acre firebrigade put out the blaze, averting a very dangerous situation. The cause of the fire has not yet been ascertained.

* * *

A MAPAM-MAPAI joint list won the elections to the workers' committee of the Haifa Refineries on Wednesday. Five Mapam, three Mapai and one non-party Arab worker were elected. For the first time in many years no Communist representative was voted onto the committee.

Martha Graham Tells Why She 'Broke Away'

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — Miss Martha Graham, leader of the modern dance, faced the critics at a press conference in the Dan Hotel this morning, and held them spellbound, as she had at her company's opening performance last night.

The famous choreographer explained that she did not intend "to destroy classical ballet, which would be impossible, but I felt I had to go on." She had the urge to "break away" while she was learning ballet, and she used many of the classical ballet exercises in her training of others.

Miss Graham said that her dances resulted from a need to move in a certain way and did not follow some preconceived idea. "There comes a moment when the spoken word fails and then movement is the only satisfactory means of expression." These moments led to the creation of her dances.

There was no need to prepare audiences for her performance, Miss Graham stated. It was not for her to judge whether or not her show was dance or theatre, nor could she hope that every one could enjoy it. "As long as people are not apathetic," she said, "the worst reaction is — no reaction."

(See Review — Page 4)

Premier, Chief of Staff Honour 19 Arms-for-Defence Pioneers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — Nineteen pioneers of the Arms for Defence Fund, including a mother of 12 children, a girl aged 11, a cobbler, a rabbi, a *falafel* vendor and a tourist, strode onto the stage of the Habimah theatre this afternoon, to receive from the hands of the Prime Minister, Mr. David Ben-Gurion, certificates awarded to mark their outstanding efforts.

"The money collected for the Defence Fund is only a drop in the ocean — what is of real significance is the spirit of sacrifice. The nation's morale has not waned," Mr. Ben-Gurion told the audience of active Fund workers.

The Prime Minister said he could not appeal to the Jewries of the world if the people in Israel did not set an example. He was certain that every citizen has complete faith in our forces, but we had to realize that they have to be equipped, and that this requires many millions of pounds, Mr. Ben-Gurion said.

The Prime Minister concluded with great spirit: "If war breaks out, I am sure that we shall stand, fight and win."

Earlier, roof-raising applause had greeted the 19 men, women and children who received certificates from the Prime Minister, and shook hands with the Chief of Staff, Rav-Aluf Moshe Dayan, and Rav-Aluf Ya'akov Dori, Chairman of the Public Committee for the Defence Fund.

The 19 who received the awards were: Mr. Ben-Zion Leitner, a baker, of Ramat Hasharon — a "Hero of Israel" in the War of Independence — who gave a year's earnings.

White-bearded, black-suited Rabbi Yehuda Avida, of Jerusalem. He came from South Africa seven year ago, and was one of the capital's first donors.

Avraham Egozi, 68, among the first to hand over his donation in Tel Aviv;

The "Barber of Beersheba," Israel Epstein, one of the first settlers of the Negev capital; he served in the Red Army during World War II, and in the Negev Brigade in the War of Independence;

Mrs. Letah Arieli, of Ramat Gan, who gave the Fund all her discharge compensation from her place of work in "memory of my fallen son, a Palmach commander;"

Mrs. Baramis, of Natanya, also the mother of a fallen soldier, who contributed all her monthly war pension to the Fund;

A mother of 12, Mrs. Livia Bolule, of Tel Aviv, told the Prime Minister that she had come from Tripolitania. She gave the Fund the gran: Mr. Ben-Gurion had awarded her for bearing a dozen children;

Mr. Aharon Yacobovitz, of B'nei Brak, who had given his daughter's piano to the Fund. The girl, Sara, was killed at Oradour during the Nazi occupation of France.

A *falafel* vendor of 20 years' standing, Nissim Yeffet of Rehov Shemen, Tel Aviv, who donated all his and his sons' savings, for housing amounting to IL750. He received hearty applause from the audience.

A girl soldier, K'tzia Nadav, of Herzliya, gave all the three years compensation money coming to her from work in the Defence Ministry.

Mr. Moshe Fert, an Argentine tourist, contributed "a large sum" as soon as he heard of the appeal.

Mr. Shmuel Kovgorosky, of Nes Ziona, a former Soviet partisan, took out a bank loan and handed it over to the Fund.

The audience responded wholeheartedly to 10-year-old Haya Kromberg of Migdal Ashkelon, when she handed Mr. Ben-Gurion a large bouquet of flowers and in return received a hearty hug and kiss from the Prime Minister, which set off a battery of photographers' flashbulbs. She had given all her savings, which had been set aside for the purchase of winter clothes.

After her, "bar mitzvah boy" Yomtov Sulem of Tel Aviv ran up, dressed in shorts and open-necked shirt. He had given up his savings for a wristwatch he had intended to buy.

An elderly bachelor, Mr. Arieh Leid, one of the founders of Rishon l'Zion, donated IL1,000

The audience was also brought to its feet when a representative of Moshav Gallia, in the Judaean Hills between Kfar Menahem and Huldа, a settlement comprising 66 new immigrant families from Bulgaria, contributed IL10,000, the highest donation so far in the whole country.

Two of the very first contributors were Albert Levy, a garage hand, and Mr. Israel Gur, of Magdiel, a building worker.

Last but not least to take the stage was an officer of a Reserve Brigade. All the soldiers of the unit had given their month's pay to the Fund.

Materials Allotted For Air Raid Shelters

Municipal Councils are to receive immediately building materials for air raid shelters to the sum of IL500,000.

The Director-General of the Ministry of Finance, Mr. S. Golan, yesterday issued the necessary orders to the departments concerned.

This initial allocation is expected to cover the first stages of construction. The total sum to be given over the next few months is IL7m.

RON ON BAIL

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — Mr. Shalom Ron, Secretary of the Lapidot Oil Prospecting Company appeared at the Criminal Investigation Department this morning. Assistant Superintendent A. Yanai told the Press today.

Mr. Ron told the police that he was prepared to answer questions put to him. He was released on bail on condition that he would appear at Police H.Q. whenever requested. The Police stated that the investigation was still in the preliminary stage, as only few of the company's books and papers were in their hands.

Meanwhile, Lapidot workers from six drilling sites and representatives of the Tel Aviv office of the firm held a meeting in Helets this morning at which they solidly supported Mr. Ron. The meeting protested against the publicity given the affair by the Company.

Engineers Urged To Resume Work

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Thursday.—Striking engineers were urged to return to work at a large gathering made up of both strikers and non-strikers, who heard addresses by the Ministers of Commerce and Industry, and Transport, Mr. Pinhas Sapir and Mr. Moshe Carmel, and Mr. A. Becker, head of the Histadrut Trade Union Department in the Histadrut Executive building today.

The engineers seemed not to know what their strike was about, Mr. Becker argued. Was the small amount of extra they were demanding enough to justify the present friction and the diverting of the public's attention from the serious national situation? he asked.

Addressing his words to the strikers present, Mr. Sapir declared that he was ready to sit with them at any hour and talk things over. At first the strikers said they were fighting for a principle, and not for money; the principle had been accepted, "then what are you striking about?" he asked.

Speaking at length on the "ideology of the differential" in wages, he said the struggle surrounding it was a social one which would end in the setting up of two classes in the working community.

A number of strikers were given the floor, and more were invited to speak by Mr. Sapir. It was difficult for an engineer to live on his salary, and some complained of inadequacy in Histadrut leadership.

SHAH VISITS INDIA

NEW DELHI, Thursday (Reuter). — The Shah of Persia and Queen Soraya arrived here by air today to start a 22-day state visit. They were welcomed by President Prasad and Premier Nehru.

Councils Ask Nat'l Tax for Emergency

Jerusalem Post Bureau

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — The Government should impose a standard emergency tax on the whole population, instead of leaving part of the fund to be raised by the local authorities, a meeting of heads of local authorities decided today. The Government plan was for local authorities to levy a special tax for their defence needs, which the central administration would supplement with IL7m. of its IL50m. emergency fund.

A rumpus occurred when a resolution was passed stating that local authorities would not submit balanced budgets to the Ministry of Interior unless measures are taken to arrive at reasonable financial relations between local authorities and the Government. Mr. I. Bar-Yehuda, the Minister of Interior, rose to his feet, and asked whether the resolution was "idle talk" or a threat. Various interpretations were then given to the resolution which was eventually rephrased.

All considerations must give way to the Emergency Fund, Mr. Bar-Yehuda declared, and it was preferable for local authorities to commit themselves financially than to do nothing at all. Danger might appear this summer, and a week's delay could be decisive. All plans for the next four years must be dependent on plans for the coming four months.

A number of speakers declared that, even if funds were obtained, local authorities would not know what to do with them because Haga (the civil defence organization) had not yet issued instructions.

Mr. P. Eylon, Mayor of Holon, and other speakers, told the Minister that the finances of local authorities were approaching collapse and the Government's assistance was abysmally small. Answering a demand for more independence for local authorities, Mr. Bar-Yehuda declared that the present law, a remnant of the Mandate, would be changed within a year.

Municipal affairs were also discussed today by the Mayors of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Mr. G. Agron and Mr. H. Levanon, and the Deputy Mayor of Haifa, Mr. Y. Nussbaum, at a meeting in Mr. Levanon's Office. They dealt with the issuance of Municipal Bonds; the position of local authorities in the State, and proposed changes in the Municipalities Statute. It was decided to request an urgent meeting with the Ministers of Finance and Interior in connection with the annulment of the exemption of the municipalities from paying customs and luxury tax.

CHINA. — China's Premier Chou En-lai today met with members of a French economic mission now visiting Peking.

Union of Families

Israel and Jordan exchanged brides yesterday at Mandelbaum Gate in Jerusalem.

Higer el-Ala, a Jaffa Moslem, crossed into Jordan to marry her sweetheart, while Smirra el-Latif, a Samaritan, came to Israel to marry hers. Smirra met her future husband when he crossed into Jordan last year to celebrate the Samaritan Passover

Safe Off Jaffa After Attack from Gaza

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — The s.s. Luksefjell was today safely anchored in Jaffa Port after having been fired upon and detained by the Egyptian authorities off Gaza yesterday morning.

The captain of the 2,500 ton Norwegian vessel, G. Welvatne, told *The Jerusalem Post* in his quarters aboard ship today that, on their way to Jaffa from Southern Italy, mist and storm had driven the vessel off course. Early yesterday morning they had approached the coast in very dense mist.

When shore batteries opened fire on the ship, "I tried to reverse and get away, but another shot from shore persuaded me to stop dead," Mr. Welvatne said.

The shots had been in warning only, and no damage was caused. Firing ceased when the vessel halted. A few minutes later, signals were flashed from the shore and a launch with 12 Egyptian soldiers, led by a Major and a Captain, drew up alongside and boarded the ship.

'Very Nice to Us'

"I just told them what had happened and how we had strayed into Egyptian territorial waters," the master said. The ship was detained for five hours during which the Egyptians checked the papers and log books. Then, convinced of the truth of the master's statement, permission was given to proceed. "They were very nice throughout," Mr. Welvatne added.

Olaf, the captain's six-year-old son, showed no signs of nervousness after yesterday's adventure. He appears as a "cabin boy" on the ship's roll. Mrs. Welvatne is also accompanying him on this journey. Their home is in Oslo.

The vessel was today loading 40,000 cases of citrus for Britain.

WORK WANTED IN JERUSALEM

The Jerusalem Labour Exchange has opened an intensive campaign among employers in all fields to provide work for the unemployed before the Passover holiday.

The Exchange has also called upon employers not to dismiss any worker unless absolutely necessary, and to pay wages on time.

Property Tax Payable On Machinery, Shares

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Machinery, stocks and shares, as well as land and houses, will be taxable under the amended Property Tax, Mr. Ze'ev Sharef, Commissioner of State Revenue, announced last night in a broadcast press conference. Under the new budget, IL30m. is to be raised by this new form of tax which is to replace the present "Werco," and which is expected to be introduced after passover.

Hitherto divided into agricultural and urban sections, the property levy has been combined into one progressive tax with a maximum of 1.5 per cent of the value of the property; at least the first IL7,500 will be exempt.

On income tax, Mr. Sharef revealed that not more than five per cent of those liable had succeeded in evading their responsibility. As evidence of the improvements continually being made to the system of collection, he said that between IL1m. and IL1.5m. had been returned to taxpayers who had been overassessed.

Of anticipated amendments to the law, one will reduce the tax burden on large families and another will permit advance payments in ten instalments instead of the present quarterly payments.

MAGEN CHATWOOD TO 'MERKHAVIM'

HAIFA, Thursday. — The Magen Chatwood automobile body plant is being renamed "Merkhavim," following the acquisition of part of its shares by Koor, the spokesman of the latter company announced today. The new plant management will consist of representatives of Solel Boneh and those former partners who have remained with the firm. No changes will be made in the technical management or among the staff.

The new firm plans to produce bodies for buses and other vehicles; gas containers and various tin articles.

ITALIAN MINISTER DIES IN SENATE

ROME, Thursday (Reuter). — Budget Minister Ezio Vanoni collapsed and died after a speech in the Senate today. Doctors attributed his death to heart thrombosis and brain haemorrhage.

He was internationally known for an ambitious 10-year plan to rid the country of its chronic unemployment and give it economic prosperity. He was 52.

British Weeklies Suspended As 8,000 Printers Fired

LONDON, Thursday (UP). — London's master printers yesterday dismissed close to 8,000 typographic workers for "working to rule" and hundreds of British weekly publications were forced to suspend operations.

The dismissals came after the typographic union refused to bow to an ultimatum to resume normal operations. They affect more than 500 publications, from comic books and racing dope sheets to the staid "Economist" and "Punch." The dispute does not affect Britain's national daily newspapers or publications printed outside the London area. Union members started to "work to rule" weeks ago in protest against current wages.

Murder Suspect Held

NAHARIYA, Thursday. — Sami Ahmed Kiwan, 21, of Majdal Krum, who allegedly had admitted to the murder, on Tuesday, of his 15-year-old sister Samiha, was remanded for 15 days in Acre today on a murder charge. His cousin, Muhamed Hassad Kiwan, 55, was also detained on the same charge. He was seen with Sami immediately after the murder. A pathological examination has established that the girl was stabbed 18 times.

STRIKE AT MALBEN

KFAR SABA, Thursday. — The Pardess Hana Workers Council has declared a warning strike of the 130 employees of the Malben Home for the Aged, Neve Avot, following the dismissal of 35 workers. Malben took over Neve Avot from the Jewish Agency in November.

According to the Labour Council, the dismissed workers are veteran employees of the institution, and include elderly persons who would be left destitute. In addition, these workers have not been paid for three months. Wages have yet to be paid to the employed workers who have only received a monthly advance of IL80 each.

248 Charges Against Bank

TEL AVIV, Thursday. — The Japhet Bank and Mr. Y. Bronstein figure as the central suspects in a charge sheet of 248 counts involving 15 foreign currency transgressions submitted to the District Court today. The sheet was signed by the Attorney General who directed the Assistant State Attorney, Mrs. Ben Porat, to present the charges. Other suspects are four Japhet Bank employees, Mr. Baruch Braude, the Talos Forwarding and Storage Company, and Tel Arza Ltd.

The unauthorised sale, purchase and loan of U.S. dollars, the opening of letters of credits contrary to import licence conditions, the release of a blocked account on false pretences and irregular sales to a foreign resident are among the transactions allegedly carried out in violation of the 1941 Emergency Regulations (Finance). Breach of confidence, the acquisition of licences by false pretences and corrupting a customs official are also listed.

This charge sheet is the result of the first phase of a police investigation, conducted together with the Finance Ministry's Legal Department. More serious offences are being investigated, and involve additional suspects.

The Finance Ministry has suspended Japhet Bank's authority to act as accredited merchants until it is cleared in court of all charges (see Advertisement P. 1).

Sifri BOOKSHOP
HAIFA חיפה
CENTRAL CARMEL מרכז הכרמל
TEL. 82515 טל'

Children
come in fancy dress to the performance of the
Rina Nikova Ballet Studio
at the Edison Hall, on February 26, 1956, at 11 a.m.
Prizes will be awarded to the 5 children in the most beautiful costume. All will also be given a place of honour in one of the Adloyada floats.
Programme: Biblical, classical and folk dances. Proceeds to the Omer Children's Fund.
Tickets at Cahana.

AVOYA
JAFFA, opp. "THE CLOCK"
YOUR SPOT for REAL ORIENTAL FOOD SPECIALITIES
One of our specialities!
PIPING HOT SHASHLIK
A SENSATION FOR YOUR FRIENDS FROM ABROAD
LATE HOURS NIGHTLY

EDISON STUDIO
Cinemas, Jerusalem
Sat. at 6.30 & 8.30 p.m. Weekdays at 3.30, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Third Week — Starting Saturday, February 18
The brilliant motion picture — Daniel Gelin — Anne Vernon
"La Rage au Corps"
with: Francoise Arnoul, Jean Claude Pascal
English-Hebrew subtitles
Edouard et Caroline
English Subtitles

Tel Aviv Cinemas
Saturday: 7.15 & 9.15 p.m. Weekdays: 3.30, 7.15, 9.15 p.m.
From Saturday, Feb. 18.

ALLENBY 8th week
CINEMASCOPE
AUDIE MURPHY
America's most decorated war hero, in
To Hell and Back
3.30, 7.15, 9.30

Armon David Tel. 20954
3rd WEEK
SOPHIA LOREN
in
LA DONNA DEL FIUME
in Technicolor

CHEN
Powerful..... Superb..... Unforgettable ...
The Country Girl
with Grace Kelly, Bing Crosby, William Holden. Three Oscar winners together on the screen in one of the finest films ever made.

EDEN 2nd week
ALINA
Gina Lollobrigida, Amedeo Nazzari.

ESTHER
Doris Day, James Cagney
in
M.G.M.'s Life inspired Musical Drama
Love Me or Leave Me
Cinemascope and Color

MIGDALOR 2nd week
CINEMASCOPE
Jean Wall
Isabelle Pia-Umberto
FROU-FROU

MOGRABI
Fernandel
Le Boulanger de Valorgue
English Subtitles,
3.30, 7.15, 9.30

OPHIR 3rd week
Lana Turner — Clark Gable
Victor Mature
in M.G.M.'s story of the secret three. One is a traitor and the two are...
BETRAYED

ORION 5th week
CINEMASCOPE
World Premiere!
Helen of Troy
From the famed "ILIAD" by Homer.
Daily: 3.30, 7, 9.15 p.m.

SHDEROTH
Michele Morgan
Jean Gabin, Daniel Gelin
in a great French Production
La Minute de Verite
English Subtitles

TAMAR
H. G. WELLS'
The War of the Worlds
Technicolor
A "Paramount" Picture.
MATINEES Continuous from 2.45 (Last show at 3.45 p.m.)

TCHELETH
by public request for the 15th AND LAST WEEK
Francoise Arnoul, Daniel Gelin
Les Amants du Tage
at: 5.15 — 7.15 — 9.15
at 3.15 p.m.: "SPARTACUS"

YARON 3rd week
First time in Tel Aviv
New entertainment in World's first motion picture in
VISTAVISION
Danny Kaye in
WHITE CHRISTMAS
with Bing Crosby, Rosemary Clooney, Vera Ellen.
Music by Irving Berlin.

ZAMIR 5th week
Israel Premiere!
Verdi's famous Opera
Rigoletto
The GOBBI, Tito ARNALDI
3.15, 7.15, 9.15

Haifa Cinemas
From Saturday, Feb. 18, 1956.

ORLY, Central Carmel Tel. 81868
The Man in the White Suit
Alec Guinness, Joan Greenwood.
2 Perfs. nightly at 6.45 & 9.00

ARMON Tel. 4848
Israel Premiere!
The Critics' Choice is Hobson's Choice!
HOBSON'S CHOICE
Charles Laughton, John Mills, Brenda De Banzie.
Hebrew & French subtitles.

EN DOR Tel. 3421
Sat., Sun., Mon.
CINEMASCOPE
RIVER OF NO RETURN
Technicolor
Robert Mitchum, Marilyn Monroe
Saturday night one perf. at 6.45.
Tues., Wed., & Thurs.
MALAGA
Technicolor
Maureen O'Hara, MacDonald Carey.
2 Perfs. nightly at 6.45 & 9.00

MORIAH Tel. 81477
Gene Kelley, Cyd Charisse, Van Johnson
in
Brigadoon
Technicolor
In the magic of
CINEMASCOPE

ORION Tel 4020
Victor Mature, Piper Laurie, in R.K.O's Thrilling Technicolor Adventure
DANGEROUS MISSION

ATZMON Tel. 3003
2nd week!
After 8 record breaking weeks in Tel Aviv
Laughter in Paradise
Alastair Sim, Audrey Hepburn

PEER Tel. 2232
3rd and last week.
NOTE: This Picture will not be reshown in Haifa or vicinity for a period of one year.
World Premiere, simultaneously in Israel, Paris, and New York.
Jane Wyman, Rock Hudson
(The stars of the "Magnificent Obsession" reunited) in
All That Heaven Allows
Technicolor
Hebrew and French subtitles

GAL OR Tel. 4587
Evenings at 4, 6.45 & 9
3rd week!
Columbia Film presents
CELL 2455 DEATH ROW
Mats.: Fri., Sun., Mon.
SIROCCO
Tues., Wed., Thurs.
PASSPORT TO RIO

AMPHITHEATRE Tel. 4018
2nd week!
CINEMASCOPE
A worthy successor to "Good-bye, Mr. Chips"
GOOD MORNING, MISS DOVE
Jennifer Jones, Robert Stack

ORAH Tel. 4017
2nd week!
Charles Boyer, Martine Carol,
NANA
Colour Film, based on the novel by Emile Zola
For adults only
(16 years and over)

MAY Cinema, Haifa Tel. 2836
3rd week!
SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS
CINEMASCOPE

Jerusalem Cinemas
Sat. at 6.30 & 8.30 p.m. Weekdays at 3.30, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Starting Saturday, February 18

ARNON Tel. 4829
AIRHEATING
ISRAEL PREMIERE
2nd Week
The Second Greatest Sex
The Greatest Musical Picture of the year
with
Joanne Crain, George Nader, Kitty Kallen, Bert Lahr, Mamie Van Doren, Keith Andes, Kathleen Case, Paul Gilbert

EDEN Tel. 3829
2nd Week
M.G.M.'s eye-filling spectacle. Screen magic on a gigantic scale! Comedy! Wonderful satire! Great song hits!
Esther Williams, Howard Keel, Marge and Gower Champion, George Sanders.
Jupiter's Darling
Cinemascope in Colours
Sunday morning at 10.30 and Friday at 3 p.m.

ORNA Tel. 4733
ISRAEL PREMIERE
Renato PASCAL—Marisa PAVAN
In the funniest Italian comedy
Ho Sceito L'Amore
(I'VE CHOSEN LOVE)

ORION Tel. 2914
CINEMASCOPE
MARILYN MONROE
the girl of everyman's dream!
The Seven Year Itch
(Color De Luxe)
Hebrew and French subtitles

ORGIL Tel. 61486
An hour of true enjoyment
BYGONE YEARS
(ALTRI TEMPI)
Hebrew and English Subtitles
Starring: Vittorio de Sica, Gina Lollobrigida, Amedeo Nazzari
Friday: TEATRO LICEO

RON Tel. 3104
MUST A CHILD BE THE VICTIM OF HER MOTHER'S WEAKNESS
La Pensionnaire
(THE BEACH)
MARTIN CAROL—(Technicolor)
Hebrew and English Subtitles
Friday at 3 p.m.:
I HAD 7 DAUGHTERS

ZION HALL
SILVANA MANGANO
KIRK DOUGLAS
ANTHONY QUINN
ROSSANA PODESTA
Here is the greatest of all! A picture of magnificent splendour! The ancient and powerful tale in Technicolor
ULISSE
Hebrew and French Subtitles
Today at 3 p.m.:
CONQUEST OF SPACE

TEL-OR Tel. 3870
Groucho MARX — William BENDIX — Mario WILSON
Join the navy and see the world
A Girl in Every Port

THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
GEZA ANDA
ONLY PIANO RECITAL
IN TEL AVIV
Tomorrow
SATURDAY, Feb. 18, at 8.30
"Ohel Shem" Hall
Tickets are available at the I.P.O. Office, 56 Allenby Rd., 11-2, 4-6, and can be obtained at the box office tomorrow night.
Tickets bought for the Feb. 11 Recital which did not take place, are valid tomorrow night.

ONLY PIANO RECITAL
IN HAIFA
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22, at 9,
"PEER" Hall
Tickets are available at Ginsburg-Yuval Office, 25 Rehov Herzl
THE PROGRAMME includes works by Beethoven, Schumann, Bartok, Brahms

NOTICE

The meeting of the Association of Engineers and Architects, which was to have taken place in Tel Aviv yesterday, February 16, was postponed. It was to have heard a report on the Association's activities.

The postponement was announced in the Press and over the Radio and authorized by me as chairman of the Tel Aviv branch of the Association.

In spite of this notice, an unauthorized body published advertisements in which the postponement was cancelled, purporting to come from the Tel Aviv Branch Committee. These advertisements state that the meeting would take place and that "rumours" of its postponement were not true. It also said that attendance was compulsory for all members.

I therefore publicly declare that the meeting was unauthorized, and contrary to the rules of the Association; and that such action is not in accordance with professional standards, even under the present difficult conditions.

B. Perlman
Chairman of the Tel Aviv Branch
of the Association of Engineers and Architects in Israel.

CONTROLLER

(Continued from Page 1)

very late. In seven councils, entries were made a month after transactions took place, and in 14 they were entered between eight days and a month later.

Similarly, book-keeping was behind schedule, and financial reports in many councils were unsatisfactorily late. In some of the smaller councils, the book-keeping system was such that no clear picture of the activities could be derived.

Several councils have unsatisfactory registration of their properties, an essential to efficient management, the Controller said.

The Controller repeated his dissatisfaction with the Haifa Municipality in its administration of its registered cars. An interim report on this was published last summer, in which he warned that resigning senior officials should not be permitted to retain the cars allocated them for their work and later sold to them at convenient prices.

The Controller's report furnishes statistics for comparison on the various municipal welfare, education and health activities. These include the amount spent on schooling per child by the various councils.

In Migdal Ashkelon, only IL57 were spent on every schoolchild. In Petah Tikva, the sum reached IL83.8, while the expenditure was IL88.4 on a Jerusalem child. In Tel Aviv, IL106.4 was invested in every schoolchild, and in Haifa IL126.7.

Haifa Municipal taxes, IL51.8 per citizen, were the highest in the country in 1954-55. They were slightly lower in Tel Aviv, at IL47.3 per citizen. Following far behind are Ramat Gan and Petah Tikva with just over IL34 in both municipalities. A Jerusalem citizen paid only an average IL21.9, while most new councils demanded a much lower average rate.

The Controller, analysing the tax figures, found that, with the increasing lack of cash in the economy, the financial position of most councils deteriorated, and debts to them increased considerably.

ESHKOL

(Continued from Page 1)

holds that it is inevitable for changes of policy and rates of subsidies to occur several times a year, and they cannot be accurately predicted.

The Minister accepts the Controller's sharp criticism of the Water Authority for not examining and supervising more closely the activities and accounts of Tahal and Mekorot, the country's two main water suppliers. Both received monies directly from the Government last year, without the Water Authority's knowledge. There has been no control over water prices in the last year, the Controller adds, and the Authority admits this.

The Controller complained that in certain cases, large loans were given without a binding contract. Mr. Eshkol answers that there were special reasons, and he did not find the cases specified worrying.

Income Tax

Where the Controller criticised the delay in studying income tax returns, assessing without sufficient data, and the Income Tax authorities' acceptance of balance sheets to which the company's auditors have objected Mr. Eshkol points out that instructions have already been issued to improve the situation.

He hopes the Controller will note in his next report the remedies effected in various other important points which are under continuous improvement.

The Controller's criticism as to the "unusual management" of the Shilumim Corporation are accepted by Mr. Eshkol.

Considerable changes in the system of import licences were ordered after the Controller found that some licences were issued outside the 1950 Law for the Encouragement of Investment, it is learned from Mr. Eshkol's report.

Considerable criticism which has also resulted in far-reaching improvement centred on the choice of officials by the Foreign Ministry for service abroad. A sad choice of personnel was especially notable in the administrative staffs. The Controller also mentions the inflated expense accounts noted in some foreign service. The Foreign Ministry felt that these complaints were only partly valid.

Dr. and Mrs. William E. Lee, Tivon — Mr. Isaac Bieler, Kibbutz Gesher Haziv

happily announce the birth of a daughter — Avital

to their children

Michael and Yola Bieler of Kibbutz Gesher Haziv

"ULISSE" "ZION" Cinema, Jerusalem
STARTING TOMORROW

THE JERUSALEM
POST

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Friday, February 17, 1956
Adar 8, 5716. — Rajab 7, 1375

THE eight-page Histadrut supplement that goes out with today's issue of this paper is a modest reflection of the share of this organization in Israel's daily life today. The Histadrut has a membership of three quarters of a million and its enterprises employ more than a quarter of the wage earners, figures that have often been used to frighten non-members and friends of Israel abroad unfamiliar with the history of this country. It would indeed have been a sign of remarkable power had any single labour organization been able to recruit so large a proportion of a country's life to its own point of view.

HISTADRUT REVIEW

It is in this of course, that Israel's labour organization is essentially different from that of other countries, just as many other aspects of life here have not developed along the precise lines accepted as normal elsewhere. When the Histadrut's first members banded together in Haifa in 1920, there were not a great many Jewish workers in the country, and there was little enough opportunity for employment. There was no ready-made economy, needing only a union that would assure fair wages to the worker and protect him from exploitation. From the outset the body was concerned first of all with finding and training workers and creating opportunities for them; wages and conditions were an important part of this process, but secondary always to the consideration of nation-building as a whole.

For guidance, the Histadrut had taken, not only the theories of the socialists who reconstructed European labour, but of the Zionists, who realized that political promises and achievements could not be turned into living reality without a solid foundation of Jewish labour and enterprise, on which national independence could be built.

The Histadrut encompasses half the working population and all the parties now making up the Coalition Government, and its leading members double in key positions in the government, the Knesset and the Histadrut itself. In a major national emergency, this enables action to be taken quickly and smoothly; if in the ordinary course of things it often slows down decisions, for a man may have to weigh the stand he must take on behalf of the different organizations he represents. Again, the large sector of Histadrut enterprises mean that, even if not directly, much of Israel's industry is owned by the men who work in it.

But it has become increasingly clear in the past years that to keep inefficient workers employed is a far more expensive process than to pension them off on the profits of streamlined factories. It is also a fact that the private capitalist views the labour-capital union with an unreasonable fear, as a two-way monopoly with which he cannot compete on equal terms, and which he is entitled to attack in every way.

These are the penalties of success and size. There have already been indications of increasing separations of functions within the Histadrut as trade union, and as the cover organization both of the enterprises owned by Hevrat Ovdim and of such an organization as Kupat Holim. Size must bring with it decentralization if young cadres are to develop within an organization, and to some extent the decentralization within the growing Histadrut will necessarily be functional as well as geographical. But this also must be a process of growth, parallel with other changes taking place within organizations whose functions within the foreign-ruled Yishuv do not fit completely into the structure of a national state.

Without the Histadrut and its members the pioneering stage of this country could not have been overcome; without it, pioneering would stop short today. The fruits of this pioneering, together with the land and the water and other natural resources of Israel belong to every citizen, but the Histadrut has good reason to take pride both in its past achievements and its present status. Only the fearful or the small-minded can today begrudge the nation this concentration of manpower and economic strength whose declared aims are entirely identified with national progress and security.

Issues Before Eighth Convention of the General Federation of Jewish Labour

Workers' Responsibility in Histadrut Enterprises

By Sigmond Haring
Head of the Organization Dept. of the Histadrut

THE question of workers' participation in the administration of Histadrut enterprises is a basic issue affecting both the economic and social character of the Histadrut. It is a touchstone for the entire approach of the Histadrut to the development of the labour economy, which is without parallel in any labour movement the world over. So it is not surprising that the problem gives rise to much concern, and that all those involved are considering ways and means for its solution.

First it must be admitted that the terminology employed is none too adequate nor does it help in clarifying the issues involved. The distinction between workers' participation in managing an enterprise and worker responsibility for profits and losses in that enterprise is unfortunate, since it would imply that worker participation in profits and losses is the sole form of responsibility, while participation in the management of an enterprise might be supposed not to involve responsibility.

Now workers' participation in the profits and losses of a given enterprise which is part of the Histadrut economy does not harmonise with the principle of general labour ownership of the Histadrut economy as a whole, and may affect the entire sense of general class ownership. Furthermore, from a practical point of view, labour participation in the profits and losses of a given single concern is neither logical nor just for the workers themselves, since an isolated enterprise dovetailed into a large and planned economic structure is not the sole factor determining its own profits and losses.

Profits and Losses

It is also clear that as long as there are profits, everything will be quite in order. But the moment the workers may have to bear the losses of the enterprise the entire plan will break down; for how can they cover them from the wages that are intended for their livelihood? After all, they are not called on to participate in the capital of the enterprise. Or is it assumed from the beginning that there will never be any losses?

It seems to me that anybody who sets out to establish an indivisible link between worker participation in management and worker responsibility for profits and losses is consciously passing a sentence of death on the entire partnership issue before it is born. For neither the workers concerned nor the general Histadrut membership as such would be able to permit this, albeit the reasons in each case would be different.

There are some who propose that workers employed in Histadrut-owned concerns should be organized in a distinct trade union body of their own. If this is done, then instead of fostering responsibility for an enterprise which is general Histadrut property, we might produce a narrowness of vision and state of self-interest which would harm both enterprise and trade union alike.

The question of ensuring the participation of workers in the management of enterprises still remains. Should such representatives be elected by the workers of the concern as a whole or should they be delegated by the trade union concerned or should they be appointed personally by the Histadrut authority which at present appoints all managers?

Two typical and widely differing examples may be cited from other lands. In Britain, the nationalized industries have adopted the organizational, administrative and legal pattern of public corporations which are autonomous in the conduct of their daily affairs and responsible to the Government (and through it to Parliament) for general policy. There, all members of the Governing Boards are appointed by one authority, namely, the Minister responsible for a given industry. In appointing Board members, consideration is given exclusively to their personal qualifications and familiarity with the economic, financial and technical requirements of the branch of industry under consideration.

Among the qualifications taken into account (in practice rather than according to the law) is also that of experience in the trade union movement. On the other hand, the appointments completely lack any sign of a test of political reliability, which might lead to corruption and harm the concern. As a result, a Board is set up with undivided responsibility, enjoying a large measure of freedom and elasticity in its daily activities, while at the same time subject to public control in matters involving the public interest.

The British Labour movement, including both its political and trade union branches, did not reach this solution at all easily. It was preceded by numerous debates and much discussion, the echoes of which can still be heard at Labour conferences. The demand was made for direct worker participation, or "workers' control", meaning the selection by the workers themselves or by their trade union of worker representatives to serve on the Governing Boards. In certain circles, indeed, there is still a measure of dissatisfaction, since to more than 11 per cent of all members of Boards of nationalized industries come from the trade union or political Labour movement. At the same time, the British Labour Party was interested primarily in the successful administration of the nationalized concern, by securing its administrative and economic efficiency and placing it outside the bounds of political debate or inter-party bargaining. On the other hand, all nationalization laws approve the establishment of an apparatus for joint consultation between workers and management at every administrative level of industry.

A type widely differing from the above has been implemented in France. There the Governing Board of the nationalized branch is based on a threefold representation: representatives of the State, the workers and the consumers. In theory, and in theory only, all members of the Governing Board are appointed by the Minister concerned. In fact, however, representatives of the workers and consumers are appointed by their respective organizations, which may also rescind the appointments if they see fit.

Here is a method of direct and collective representations adopted under the influence of the syndicalist doctrines which have a tradition of their own in France. As a result of this method, furthermore, all members of the Governing Board save the Chairman actually participate only in meetings and do not work on a full-time basis. Experience in France, to be sure, proves that this type of representation transforms the Board into an arena where various and occasionally opposing interests contend with each other and that the absence of joint and undivided responsibility harms the economy. In France, it should be added, efforts are now being made to improve this situation.

Direct workers' participation in the management of Histadrut concerns must inevitably raise many complicated problems in three respects: as regards the plant, the workers and their trade union organization, and the Histadrut itself.

As far as the enterprise itself is concerned, it is hard to imagine that the same management should include directors who receive instructions from the general Histadrut authority which at present appoints them, while others are nominated and receive instructions from the workers of the concern or from their trade union. For if the matter of "workers' control" is to be treated seriously rather than as a means of giving a doubtful and purely external satisfaction to the emotions, then it must be borne in mind that workers who send their representatives to participate in management will justly be entitled to demand a report from them, to instruct them how to vote on specific issues and also to change them from time to time if they do not act in accordance with instructions and do not unconditionally accept the authority of those who have appointed them.

Indeed, it is difficult to imagine the functioning of such an enterprise, where responsibility for management is split, subject to two different centres of decision or how it will face the reality of a mixed economy and competition with private concerns.

At the same time, even as regards the workers and their unions the matter is by no means simple. Selection of workers' representatives on management by the union itself must involve far-reaching consequences on the latter's character as a body entrusted with the task of safeguarding fair wages and working conditions. For even in a publicly controlled economy it is undesirable, and even dangerous, to confuse the boundaries of trade union functions with those of direct responsibility for production and efficiency.

No matter what the method of selecting workers as members of the management, it is plain that in all the instances outlined above, the selected workers will have to give up the work on which they were previously engaged and become members of the Board of Management on a full-time basis, for otherwise their participation will be a fictitious one and lack all real value. In that case, they may discover in due course that many of the workers in the concern will come to regard them as having crossed over to the other side of the class fence. Clearly, the choice is going to be a very difficult one.

As for the Histadrut as a whole, the principle of its comprehensive nature is fundamental, and constitutes a kind of social and moral spinal cord on which the whole structure hangs. Direct workers' participation in the management of an enterprise where they happen to work, and which is general Histadrut property, is likely to undermine the relationship between the workers as a whole and the Histadrut economy. Moreover, some of them may easily regard it as the beginning of withdrawal of the plant from general class ownership and its transfer to narrow syndicalist lines.

Yet at the same time, workers' participation in the management of Histadrut concerns is vitally necessary for social reasons and can greatly encourage their administrative and economic efficiency. Hence, it is important to exhaust all possibilities for its early implementation. Here I am expressing an entirely personal point of view. The best, and in my opinion the only, way to achieve this aim is to appoint workers as members of boards of management on a personal basis, by the same Histadrut authority which appoints managers at present.

There is no justification for the appointment of workers in Histadrut enterprises to managerial positions in any other way, and even less for their appointment on the prior conditions of their personal responsibility for the profits and losses of the concern. Approval of such differences in methods of appointment means, among other things, to assume from the outset that those who now manage Histadrut enterprises are not representatives of the workers.

The most gifted of the workers in an enterprise should be appointed as members of the management, taking into consideration only their personal qualities and their familiarity with the affairs and working of the enterprise. Those appointed will work in the management full time and will be responsible, like the other managers, to only one authority — that of the Histadrut. In practice, this would be far more than the laying down of any conceivable conditions for "workers' control"; while at the same time their character as workers' representatives will not be affected by the fact that their appointment will be made by an elected and democratic Histadrut institution.

In order to initiate this process, all steps must be taken as soon as possible to permit the training of as many workers as possible for managerial functions and ensure that they obtain ample experience of the necessary kind. It will be advisable to prepare a detailed educational and training scheme which would include the granting of scholarships for workers to enable them to study at the cost of the concern in technical schools and universities, as is the practice in England. The attempt to educate workers for responsible positions in publicly owned enterprises is one of the finest achievements of nationalized industry, and has already borne fine fruit. Here, too, we will not solve the problem of workers' participation by a successful formula, but by educating a generation of workers to know how to develop and direct an economy which is of such importance to the workers and to the State alike.

I do not suggest waiting to appoint workers as members of boards of management in Histadrut concerns until they have finished their training and obtained their basic preparations in educational institutions and at the works themselves. It is necessary to start, and proceed in both directions simultaneously.

Finally, a general remark should be added. We are a Socialist movement, living and operating within a planned economy on a national level. This planning is largely the outcome of the aspirations of workers for greater equality and social justice. Under it, the Labour movement has considerable achievements to show. On the other hand, a price has to be paid for national planning. It is a certain degree of centralisation which is incompatible with localization of industrial works as isolated units operated on a local basis. They must be associated and at the same time subject to the national centres of Histadrut planning.

The modern Socialist movement has long been cured of its childhood disease of syndicalism. It is taking the course of general labour and state responsibility.

This article was specially written for the Histadrut Supplement.

THIS WEEK...

Foreign Affairs Moscow warned the West against sending troops to the Middle East to enforce peace outside the terms of the U.N. Charter. France welcomed the Russian statement. The U.S. reply was that America would not budge from its announced policy which seemed to be that if it were impossible to get U.N. action to stop a Middle East crisis it would act together with the U.K. outside the U.N. A Foreign Office statement in London said that there was never any intention of sending troops to the Middle East without the consent of the countries concerned. But a few hours later in the House of Commons it was contradicted by Prime Minister Eden who said that the West would take action "immediately" if the armistice were violated seriously... Prime Minister Ben-Gurion announced in a press interview that Israel was ready to delay work on the Jordan River hydroelectric project, over which Syria has threatened to take up arms, if Ambassador Erie Johnston makes another attempt to get the Arabs to cooperate with Israel on a regional water development scheme... Egypt agreed to take $270m. from the World Bank (U.S.) for the Aswan Dam, and accepted Russia's offer of assistance in developing its atomic energy programme. The U.S. grant-in-aid to Israel would be halved next year, it was reported... Egypt pledged to help Jordan if Israel attacked her, although she refused to attend a meeting of Arab Prime Ministers unless Jordan jilted the British and accepted Egyptian subsidies... Israel claimed $2.6m. in compensation from Bulgaria for damages incurred when Bulgarian fighters shot down an El Al Constellation airliner last summer. All 58 aboard were killed.

Economy Finance Minister Eshkol presented a IL775m. budget for 1956/57 to the Knesset. It called for an extra IL50m. for defence, but asked no major new taxes. Last year's budget amounted to IL747m., but several supplementary budgets were included later in the year... The Harsa ceramics works announced a five to 10 per cent reduction in prices.

Security While Gen. John Glubb, Arab Legion Commander, was claiming that Israel was violating the armistice lines, Egypt continued her daily attacks on Israel patrols in the Negev. Six sniper assaults were registered in one day. Infiltrators from the Gaza Strip made off with sheep and cattle.

Labour The strike of employed physicians, lawyers, engineers and other professionals was in its second week. The strikers came forth yesterday with a compromise plan which may bring an early end to the lay-off.

Deaths Azriel Carlebach, founder and editor of "Ma'ariv," popular afternoon daily with the largest circulation in Israel, at 48. Shalom Horowitz, retired attorney, patron of the arts, and Jerusalem notable, at 75.

Peking Government Recognizes Its Obligations to Intellectuals

By O. M. GREEN

THE reinstatement of China's intellectuals in Communist Party favour was formally proclaimed at a recent meeting of the Central Executive Committee presided over by Mao Tse-tung.

China lags far behind other nations in scientific and technological knowledge, it was declared. To complete the work of national socialization she must have at least one million highly trained scientists by 1967; all the forces of her intellectuals must be mobilized to provide them.

The important part of this declaration, fully brought out in speeches at the meeting, was the frank recognition by the Communists that the intellectuals have no cause to love them. In the great "brain-washing" of 1953, 6,500 professors of Peking and Tientsin (how many elsewhere we do not know) were forced to make abject public confession of their errors. But the majority have still been regarded as the bad boys of the State, consistently distrusted and held at arm's length.

This was shown in detail by Premier Chou En-lai, Secretary of the Committee, in a long report remarkable for its plain speaking. China, he said, now had about 100,000 intellectuals, including 25,000 doctors and 31,000 engineers (for a nation of 600 million).

Many intellectuals, Chou said, had remained altogether unemployed. Some of the autobiographies which they had been compelled to supply had never been read, and the authors remained uncleared. Intellectuals drafted into Government units were put to work in administrative tasks alien to their training, or just left to pass the day idle. Factories they should enter were barred to them; information they ought to see was denied them; they were short of books (possibly, though Chou did not say this, because the best libraries in China have been purged of hundreds of thousands of books tainted with bourgeois ideology); their self-love had been wounded by humiliations and ostracism.

All this must radically be changed. Party leaders must make friends with the intellectuals. They must be encouraged to become members of the party. Their living conditions, at present highly unsatisfactory, must be raised to a level in keeping with the dignity of their work. "The Party has a high concern for the intellectuals. We must give them our trust and support to rouse their enthusiasm and achieve a brotherly alliance of workers, peasants and intellectuals."

The chains could not wholly be struck off, Chou said, Basic study courses in Marxism and Leninism would be prepared for the intellectuals. But they could take these by correspondence. Nothing must be done to impair their consciousness of the Party's high regard for them.

Chou En-lai concluded by emphasizing that China must not rely on Soviet experts indefinitely. To continue to send middle-grade students to Moscow, he said, would get them nowhere. Only outstanding post-graduate scholars should be sent for one or two years' special study to Russia "and other countries."

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PAPER NEWS

● Alaf David Shaltiel, former Ambassador to Brazil, told the Commercial Club at their weekly luncheon meeting on Friday, February 10, that Jews in that country — "still did not believe that Israel was here to stay and did not consider her a good investment. They would continue to donate to Israel appeals, but were afraid to invest large sums."

● The group of American, Australian and Latin American Jews responsible for investing over three and a half million dollars in Israel Paper Mills at Hadera, do not entertain any doubts as to Israel's economic future. They have proved that investment based on modern methods and efficient operation can further Israel's development. They also realize that only an investment which brings normal returns can convince the foreign businessman that capital invested in Israel's future is not philanthropy, but good business sense.

● At a time when war in the Middle East is being hotly discussed in Israel and actually predicted by others outside the country, American Israeli Paper Mills' investors are prepared to invest an additional four and a half million dollars to add a new Paper Machine to Israel's paper industry. Some might say that this is truly "risk" capital; American Israeli Paper Mills believe it simply means faith in Israel's future.

AMERICAN-ISRAELI PAPER MILLS

Readers' Letters

TAXING CONTRIBUTIONS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Any contribution to the Defence Fund is deductible within the scheme of tax credits for social expenses but, as these deductions, restricted in a certain way, are mostly used up, no benefit accrues to the taxpayer in most of the cases.

I know of a professional, earning about IL500 a month, who was requested by his professional association to contribute IL400 to the Keren.

It is obvious that this man, living on a middle class standard and supporting a family is unable to pay his contribution out of his income but has to make efforts to earn the amount by additional work.

Do professional associations and the Income Tax Authorities realize that in order to effect his contribution of IL400 this man has to earn an additional amount of about IL1,200 in order to defray the aforementioned contribution, after payment of the income tax due on this additional income?

Will the Ministry of Finance and the Income Tax Authorities allow contributions to the Keren Magen to be deducted from income, as otherwise people will be unable to make the contribution requested from them?

Yours, etc., *MAX STEYER*

Tel Aviv, January.

LICENCING FEES

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — The present licensing fees for motor cars were fixed some years ago and provide for reduced rates for models manufactured up to the year 1945. Meanwhile, models of 1946 and 1947 are already older than the 1945 models were at the time the present fees were authorized. I have just had to pay the same licence fee for my 1946 model as I would have had to pay for a 1956 model. Is this just?

Yours, etc.,

P. H. BONDI

Ministry of Transport Replies

This office has prepared an amendment to the law which will allow the reductions requested by your correspondent. When this is passed by the Knesset, we shall be in a position to act accordingly.

MICHAEL BAR
Controller of Transport
Jerusalem, Feb. 7.

Martha Graham Brings Native American Art to Tel Aviv

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY: Seraphic Dialogue; Night Journey; Appalachian Spring. At the Habimah Hall, Tel Aviv, February 15.

WE had known from hearsay that Martha Graham was an exponent of a new native American art. From the first bars of Seraphic Dialogue its meaning became clear. It is, in the dancer's own words, "learning to dance by practicing dancing." It is "the performance of a dedicated precise set of acts, physical or intellectual, from which comes shape and achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit."

Martha Graham's performance has everything that non-Americans, at least, associate with Native Americanism. It has grandeur, spiritual integrity, and an uncompromising mastery of the dancer's tool—the body. It contains a strange mixture of abstract thinking with down-to-earth, almost shameless sensuality.

From the European point of view, Martha Graham certainly lacks style. Her unreserved borrowing from all possible sources of movement is, however, her greatest contribution to the dance. For, casting aside all, she "learns to dance by practicing" in a way which is native to her. Many of her movements are taken from the same source which gave the non-professional dancer his boogie-woogie. Every muscle seems to lead a completely independent life, and the common force which moulds them all into an intelligible pattern is an abstract idea, a transcendental aim.

The most American, to our mind, was Seraphic Dialogue, although its theme was taken from Mediaeval Europe — St. Joan conversing with her "voices." It seems that nothing could be more American than Linda Hodes in her bright red tunic, every muscle dancing almost simultaneously, her movements quick and precise to the point of terseness. But this, of course, goes for the rest of the cast too: the only dancer whose grace was of the more spontaneous natural sort was tawny Matt Turney.

"Night Journey" was perhaps the closest to the heart of the local intellectual, for it deals with the human drama of Oedipus and Jocasta and not Christian exaltation. Yet it was less impressive than Seraphic Dialogue — maybe because the subject is too familiar and had led to preconceived ideas. Miss Graham's ability to convey tragedy through dance is astounding. However, we did not feel convinced of the inevitability of fate, in spite of the visual proof of it in form of a rope. Maybe the native American idiom is opposed to tragedy. As far as we know the Americans, "inevitability" has no meaning for them.

But the part of the programme which came across without any difficulty was "Appalachian Spring" — a folk tale about simple people in ecstatic pioneering days. There was much simple grace and quiet humour in this piece of choreography, which touches off similar feelings in people divided by distance and cultures. The male members of the company possess great technical ability; but, as happens with male dancers in troupes led by women choreographers, they became a picture of what women want men to be rather than men as they are.

For the local creative dancer, Martha Graham's visit carries a special message: dancing is telling the truth through movement. And truth hates dogma. A good creative dancer is not he who has learned faithfully what other dancers do in Germany, or England, or the U.S. Learn to dance by dancing the life which is around you.

B.M.

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Programme
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